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Decision No. 78375

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of WESTERN AIR LINES, )  
INC., for authority to increase )  
certain of its intra-California )  
passenger fares. )

Application No. 52361  
(Petition for Modification of  
Decision No. 78206;  
Filed January 28, 1971)

O P I N I O N

Western Air Lines, Inc. (Western) is a common carrier by air of passengers and property between points in the United States, Canada and Mexico, including points in California. By Decision No. 78206 herein Western was authorized to increase certain of its California intrastate commuter air fares. By its Petition for Modification filed January 28, 1971, Western seeks to increase other commuter air fares, which it alleges were omitted from its prior request through oversight.

Western seeks to increase its commuter air fares between Ontario and San Bernardino, on the one hand, and Oakland and San Francisco, on the other hand, from \$16.19 to \$16.67. Assertedly, the increased air fare (with federal transportation tax) will be the same as that authorized to be assessed by Pacific Southwest Airlines (PSA) between the same points.

Western points out that the Commission has found in prior proceedings that competition between Western and PSA or United will not permit said airlines to maintain commuter air fares substantially different from their competitors.

The application indicates that the proposed fares will produce an annual increase in Western's net revenues of \$37,578, based on on-line commuter traffic for the twelve-month period ended September 30, 1970. As indicated in Decision No. 78206, Western's

net operating loss for its California operations would be reduced, but not eliminated, if the fare increase sought herein is granted.

Western requests that its petition be granted without hearing. The petition was served in accordance with Commission rules. Also, notice of the filing of the petition appeared on the Commission's Daily Calendar. There are no protests.

In the circumstances it appears, and the Commission finds, that the increased air fares sought herein are justified. The application should be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Western Air Lines, Inc. is authorized to establish an increased commuter air fare of \$16.67 between Ontario and San Bernardino, on the one hand, and Oakland and San Francisco, on the other hand.

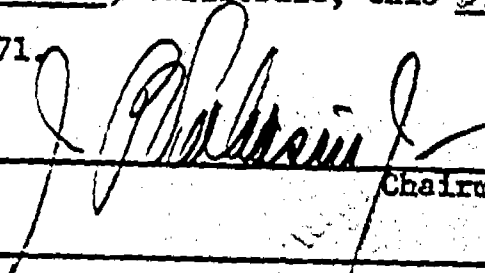
2. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of the order herein shall be filed not earlier than the effective date of this order and may be made effective not earlier than three days after the effective date hereof on not less than three days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

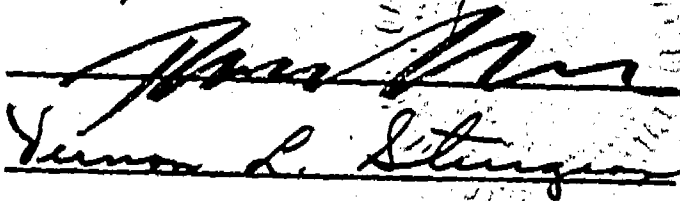
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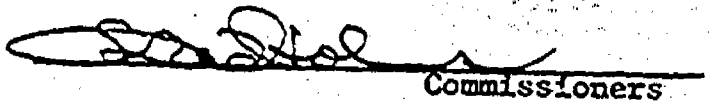
3. The authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within ninety days after the effective date of this order.

The effective date of this order shall be ten days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 2nd day of MARCH, 1971.

  
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Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vernon L. Sturgeon

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioners

Commissioner William Symons, Jr., being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.