

**ORIGINAL**Decision No. 83188

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of  
 Yosemite Park and Curry Co. for  
 authority to increase its fares  
 for intrastate passenger stage  
 service.

Application No. 55005  
 (Filed July 1, 1974)

O P I N I O N

Yosemite Park and Curry Co., a corporation, operates concessions in Yosemite National Park (Yosemite). It conducts passenger stage and newspaper and package express operations between Merced, Fresno, and Lee Vining, on the one hand, and Yosemite, on the other hand, and from, to, and between intermediate points. It also performs transportation service entirely within Yosemite which is regulated by the National Park Service.

Applicant seeks authority to increase its passenger fares which are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. The following table sets forth the present and proposed through fares between the termini indicated and the amount and percent of the increases sought:

<u>Between Yosemite And</u>	<u>Present Fares</u>		<u>Proposed Fares</u>		<u>Amount of Increase</u>		<u>Percent of Increase</u>	
	<u>One Way</u>	<u>Round Trip</u>	<u>One Way</u>	<u>Round Trip</u>	<u>One Way</u>	<u>Round Trip</u>	<u>One Way</u>	<u>Round Trip</u>
Merced	\$5.00	\$ 9.00	\$6.00	\$12.00	\$1.00	\$3.00	20.0%	33.3%
Fresno	6.00	11.00	7.50	15.00	1.50	4.00	25.0	36.3
Lee Vining	7.50	11.00	7.50	15.00	-	4.00	-	36.3

It proposes to increase the one way fares from, to, and between intermediate points on each of the Fresno and Merced routes by the amount of the percentage increase sought for the through fares for

each route and to make the round-trip intermediate fares for the three routes 200 percent of the one-way fares. According to the application, the intermediate traffic accounts for a very small volume of the traffic handled. No increases are proposed in express rates.

The application states as follows regarding the operations in issue: The fares were last adjusted by Decision No. 67153 dated April 28, 1964 in Application No. 46211; the adjustments included both minor increases and reductions, and the impact on revenue was negligible; prior thereto, the fares had not been revised for 19 years; the major portion of applicant's revenue is derived from the Merced-Yosemite operation; 75 percent of the tickets sold are for round trips; the business has been operated at a substantial loss and will continue to be operated at a loss even if the sought increases are granted; over one-half of the revenue from this service is earned during the months of July, August, and September; and to realize the major possible effect of the sought increases this year, it is essential that they be authorized as soon as possible.

The estimate of operating results for the service in question under present fares for the historical year ending March 31, 1974 and under present and proposed fares for the rate year ending June 30, 1975, as set forth in Exhibits C, E, and F, respectively, to the application, are as follows:

	<u>Historical Year</u>	<u>Rate Year</u>	
	<u>Present Fares</u>	<u>Present Fares</u>	<u>Proposed Fares</u>
Revenues	\$276,262	\$276,262	\$346,688
Expenses	349,540	371,695	377,646
Operating Income	<u>\$(73,278)</u>	<u>\$(95,433)</u>	<u>\$(30,958)</u>
Income Taxes	(35,540)	(46,285)	(15,015)
Net Income	<u>\$(37,738)</u>	<u>\$(49,148)</u>	<u>\$(15,943)</u>
Operating Ratio after Income Taxes	113.7%	117.79%	104.60%

(Indicates Loss)

The application was served in accordance with the Commission's rules. No protests have been received. A public hearing is not necessary.

The Commission finds that the proposed increases in the passenger fares are reasonable and justified and concludes that the application should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Yosemite Park and Curry Co., a corporation, is authorized to establish the increased rates proposed in Application No. 55005. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order may be made effective not earlier than five days after the effective date of this order on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the Public.

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

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3. In addition to the required posting and filing of tariffs, applicant shall give notice to the public by posting in its buses and terminals a printed explanation of its fares. Such notice shall be posted not less than five days before the effective date of the fare changes and shall remain posted for a period of not less than thirty days.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California this 23<sup>rd</sup>  
day of JULY 1, 1974.

Vernon L. Sturgeon  
President  
William Synovae Jr.  
R. W. Wilson  
W. H. H. H.  
W. H. H. H.  
Commissioners