ORIGINAL

Decision No. 83654

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of HENDERSON CENTER CAB CORPORATION, a California corporation,) doing business as Yellow Cab Company,) Eureka, for authorization to increase airport limousine service rates between Eureka, Arcata, Eureka -Arcata Airport.

Application No. 54656 (Filed February 14, 1974)

<u>O P I N I O N</u>

Applicant is certificated to operate as a passenger stage corporation between Eureka and Ferndale, Eureka and the College of the Redwoods (Beatrice), and Eureka, Arcata, and the Eureka-Arcata Airport at McKinleyville. The airport schedule is the only one operated on a regular basis; service to Ferndale is provided during the County Fair and Art Festival. An "on call" service to the college is available, but is not patronized.

Applicant has applied to increase fares between Eureka and the Eureka-Arcata Airport from \$3.00 to \$3.75 (a 25 percent increase), between Arcata and the Eureka-Arcata Airport from \$2.00 to \$2.75 (a 37.5 percent increase), and between Arcata and Eureka from \$2.00 to \$2.75. It is alleged that applicant has been operating at a loss and that the increases requested are required to merely cover operating expenses.

Notice of the application was published in the Commission's Daily Calendar and no protests have been received.

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The staff of the Transportation Division made an analysis of applicant's operations and submitted a report on September 13, 1974, which is hereby received as Exhibit No. 1. The exhibit notes that applicant operates as a taxi company and also provides school bus, ambulance, charter party, and passenger stage service. Its operating ratio on the last-named is 149 percent, to be reduced to 119 percent if this application is granted. The staff recommends that the request to raise fares be granted ex parte. The Commission finds that applicant is in need of additional revenue to sustain its operations; that the increases in rates and charges authorized by this decision are justified and are reasonable; and that the present rates and charges, insofar as they differ from those prescribed by this decision, are for the future unjust and unreasonable.

It is concluded that the sought increases in passenger fares should be authorized.

<u>O R D E R</u>

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Henderson Center Cab Corporation is authorized to establish the increased fares proposed in Application No. 54656. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order shall be filed not earlier than the effective date of this order and may be made effective not earlier than ten days after the effective date of this order on not less than ten 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. OCTOBER San Francisco _, California, this _____9TK Dated at 1974 day of