

ORIGINALDecision No. 84333

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application
of SIERRA PACIFIC AIRLINES, for an
Ex Parte Order to Increase Intra-
state Passenger Fares.

Application No. 55515
(Filed March 3, 1975)

O P I N I O N

Sierra Pacific Airlines, a corporation, is a passenger air carrier authorized to conduct operations over the general routing, Los Angeles, Burbank, Fresno, Mammoth Lakes Airport, and Bishop. It here seeks expedited authority to increase passenger fares for transportation between Bishop, on the one hand, and Burbank, Los Angeles, and Fresno, on the other hand, to the level of fares authorized by the Commission in its Decision No. 83834 dated December 17, 1974 for transportation between Mammoth Lakes and Burbank, Los Angeles, and Fresno.

On April 9, 1974 applicant was granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing the passenger air carrier operations over the general routing described above. On August 12, 1974, at applicant's request, the Commission authorized it to suspend operations to Bishop for a period of 90 days. Applicant filed its Application No. 55263 for authority to increase fares on October 21, 1974; however, it did not include in that application the fares to Bishop because it then had not been serving that point pursuant to the order of the Commission permitting it to suspend that service. Applicant asserts that the omission of those fares from its application was done inadvertently.

The level of the proposed fares to Bishop are the same as the fares to Mammoth Lakes Airport which were authorized by Decision No. 83834. Applicant asserts that since the flight time between Bishop and Mammoth Lakes is only 14 minutes, and as Bishop is the alternate airport to Mammoth Lakes, it will be in the best interests of the public to establish a common fare to Bishop and Mammoth Lakes from Fresno, Burbank, and Los Angeles, especially since the distance and cost of flying is substantially the same.

The proposed increases would provide an annual increase in revenue of about \$60,000 per year. Applicant revised the forecast of operations that it had submitted with Application No. 55263 for the 12 months ending November 30, 1975 to reflect the proposed fares to Bishop and the incremental flight and fuel costs for extending operations from Mammoth to Bishop as of March 15, 1975. The estimated results show a reduction in the estimated loss from \$320,308 to \$316,536 forecast for that period.

Notice of the filing of the application was provided in accordance with the Commission's procedural rules. There are no protests.

We find that the proposed fares are reasonable and that the increases that will result from their establishment are justified. We conclude that the application should be granted and that a public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Sierra Pacific Airlines, a corporation, is authorized to establish the increased fares proposed in Application No. 55515. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order may be made effective 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.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 15th
day of APRIL, 1975.

Vernon L. Stevenson
President
William J. Lyons
Leonard Ross
Robert J. Patterson
Commissioners