

Decision No. 84340-**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of STARLINE SIGHTSEEING
TOURS, INC., a California corporation,
for authority to use 11-passenger
vehicles.

Application No. 55271
(Filed October 24, 1974;
amended February 25, 1975)

O P I N I O N

Applicant is a corporation with its principal place of business in Hollywood, California. It holds a passenger stage corporation certificate granted under Sections 1031 et seq. of the Public Utilities Code. That certificate (granted by Decision No. 82203 in Application No. 53683) contains a condition limiting applicant to the use of 7-passenger limousines.

Applicant and its predecessors have been operating a limousine-type sight-seeing service since 1936. It contends that the design of automobile intended for use in this type of service has changed radically since that time. It further contends that the present fuel crisis has made the continuation of service by applicant in 7-passenger limousines very expensive, and that the demand for applicant's service has increased. Applicant concludes that allowing it to use 11-passenger limousines will provide better service to the public and will conserve fuel.

Applicant contends that the use of the larger vehicles will not change the nature or character of applicant's tours; that the proposed vehicles are small enough to be used on all of the streets and roads that applicant presently traverses; that the use of a larger vehicle will not significantly detract from the intimacy

of the small group; that it has adequate financial ability to purchase the equipment; and that the use of 11-passenger rather than 7-passenger limousines will not have an adverse effect on the environment.

On November 7, 1974 the Gray Line Tours Company filed a letter of protest to the application, seeking a hearing. Subsequently, as a result of negotiations between applicant and protestant, an amendment to the application was filed February 25, 1975. By this amendment applicant indicated that it was willing to accept, and is requesting a condition to its certificate, if authorized to use 11-passenger vehicles, that for a period of five years it would not file an application for a further increase in the size of vehicles.

Findings

1. It will not be adverse to the public interest to authorize applicant to utilize 11-passenger vehicles.
 2. We find with reasonable certainty that the project involved in this proceeding will not have a significant effect on the environment.
 3. A public hearing is not necessary.
- We conclude that the application should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Appendix A of Decision No. 82203 in Application No. 53683 is amended by incorporating First Revised Page 2, attached hereto, in place of Original Page 2.

2. Applicant shall not seek a further increase in the size of vehicle it is authorized to operate until five years after the effective date hereof.

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

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 22nd
day of APRIL, 1975.

Vernon L. Sturgeon
President
William Lyons Jr.
Donald
Leonard Ross
Robert Bateman
Commissioners

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORIZATIONS, RESTRICTIONS,
 LIMITATIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS.

Starline Sightseeing Tours, Inc., by the certificate of public convenience and necessity granted by the decision noted in the margin, is authorized to transport passengers for sightseeing purposes commencing at 6933 Hollywood Boulevard, through certain sections of the County of Los Angeles and the Cities of Los Angeles and Beverly Hills, and returning to 6933 Hollywood Boulevard, over and along the route hereinafter described, subject to the following conditions and restrictions:

- (a) When route descriptions are given in one direction they apply to operations in either direction unless otherwise indicated.
- (b) Service shall be limited to the transportation of round-trip passengers, originating at 6933 Hollywood Boulevard only.
- * (c) Limousine-type vehicles, not exceeding eleven-passenger capacity, exclusive of driver, shall be used.
- (d) Service shall be operated on a regularly scheduled basis subject to a minimum of three adult passengers. Persons making a reservation before the day of a tour shall be given 12 hours' notice before a tour is canceled due to lack of patronage on a tour. Persons making a reservation on the day of a tour shall be notified of a cancellation as expeditiously as possible. Patrons shall be offered a full refund of all fares paid for a canceled tour.
- (e) Starline Sightseeing Tours, Inc. shall be restricted from adding to the number of limousine schedules for its Universal City nightclub and dinner tours without further order of the Commission. Maximum schedules shall be as follows:

Issued by the California Public Utilities Commission.

* Amended by Decision No. 84340, Application No. 55271.