

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 85148

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of application of
DOUGLAS BUS LINES, INC., a
corporation,

for authority to increase fares for the transportation of passengers on regular-scheduled routes in Los Angeles and Orange Counties in order to offset extraordinary increases in fuel.

} Application No. 55656
} (Filed April 28, 1975)

O P I N I O N

This is an application by Douglas Bus Lines, Inc., a California corporation, for authority to increase fares on its commuter bus runs in Los Angeles and Orange Counties in order to offset extraordinary increases in fuel costs.

Douglas operates commuter bus runs to various industrial facilities throughout those counties pursuant to the authority granted in D.84274 dated April 1, 1975, and amended by D.84620 and D.84792. Douglas currently operates 49 buses on these daily routes and has nine reserve buses. Douglas has attached exhibits to its application indicating that costs of fuel oil and lubricating oil have risen substantially over the last several years, but has not computed the total increase it is requesting. Exhibit G-1 attached to the application is inaccurate in that it attempts to compute weekly usage and increase in cost per passenger while using as a basis monthly gallonage and number of passengers. Thus the increases shown in that exhibit to November 1974 on a per passenger basis should be denoted monthly and not weekly.^{1/} For November 1974 the increased monthly fuel cost per passenger is indicated as .386 cents.

^{1/} Douglas's request appears to be for approximately \$240,000 annually. This is patently erroneous. In any case we will only offset increased fuel and oil costs.

The staff has reviewed the application for a revenue increase and has recommended a portion of the requested fare increase be granted on an ex parte basis to increase revenues by about \$21,300, fully offsetting the \$20,700 increase in the cost of fuel and oil over the expense levels existing at the time the fares which the staff recommends increasing were established. On April 20, 1975, pursuant to D.84274, the fares on the remaining routes were established. Since there has been no significant increase in these expenses since that date no fare increase is justified on those routes. The staff recommendation is contained on the table shown below.

Table 1

	Between Service Area	AND	Routes	Weekly Fares	
				Present	Recommended
1	McDonnell-Douglas				
	Long Beach		15, 17, 18	\$5.00	\$5.50
2	McDonnell-Douglas				
	Long Beach		13, 16	5.25	5.75
1	Rockwell-Autonetics				
	Anaheim		34, 35	4.25	4.75
2	Rockwell-Autonetics				
	Anaheim		33	5.00	5.50
4 ^{2/}	Rockwell-Autonetics				
	Anaheim		31, 32 (partial)	5.25	5.75
5 ^{2/}	Rockwell-Autonetics				
	Anaheim		41-49, 51-53 32 (partial)	5.75	6.25
LAD.	Rockwell-Los Angeles				
	(El Segundo)		57	8.00	8.50
EIA	Torite Mfg. Company				
	City of Industry		72	5.00	5.50
*GR- 1,2	General Telephone				
	Santa Monica		61, 62, 63, 64	8.00	8.50

* Operating authority pending in A.54709.

2/ Further increases on Route 32 are subject to Application No. 55961.

We are adopting the staff recommendation in this matter as being reasonable and proper under the circumstances.

Findings

1. The increases in rates and charges authorized by this decision are justified and are reasonable and the present rates and charges, insofar as they differ from those prescribed in this decision, are for the future unjust and unreasonable.

2. There has been no significant increase in the cost of fuel and oil since April 20, 1975, the date present fares were established on applicant's routes for which no increase is being granted here.

3. The staff recommendations for fare increases set forth in the opinion are reasonable and proper, and will result in revenues of about \$21,300 which will offset the \$20,700 increase in the costs of fuel and oil over those costs existing at the time these fares were established.

4. A public hearing is unnecessary.

The Commission concludes that the staff recommendation be adopted and that applicant's fares be increased in accordance therewith.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. After the effective date of this order applicant, Douglas Bus Lines, Inc. is authorized to establish the increased fares set forth under "Recommended" in Table 1 above. Tariff publications to be made as a result of this order 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.

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

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, if any, 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 18th
day of NOVEMBER, 1975.

William J. Aguirre President
Lernon L. Sturgen
Alon
Paul H. [illegible] Commissioners