

Decision No. 85157**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of application of)
 DOUGLAS BUS LINES, INC.,)
 a corporation, under the)
 SHORTENED PROCEDURE TARIFF DOCKET,) Application No. 55961 (SPT)
 for authority to increase fares for) (Filed September 24, 1975)
 the transportation of passengers on)
 regular scheduled routes in Los Angeles)
 and Orange Counties.)

O P I N I O N

Douglas Bus Lines, Inc. (Douglas) is a passenger stage corporation operating under Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity granted by this Commission by Decision No. 84274, dated April 1, 1975 and as extended by Decisions Nos. 84620 and 84792, dated July 1 and August 12, 1975. Pursuant to this authority, Douglas operates "home-to-work" passenger stage service on 43 routes in the greater Los Angeles area.

By this application, Douglas seeks authority to increase passenger fares on Route 32, between Area 4 (Lynwood and Vicinity) and the Rockwell International-Autonetics plant at Anaheim, from the presently authorized \$5.25 per week to \$8.00 per week. This application is filed as a Shortened Procedure Tariff Docket item, pursuant to the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. Applicant states that this increase, if granted, will not increase its gross revenue by as much as one percent.

In support of its application, Douglas states that the present fare for this route was set September 1, 1970; that since that time operating costs have substantially increased; that the service is presently being provided

with an old city transit bus; that the passengers want a better bus; and that their employer, Rockwell International-Autonetics, supports this request.

Attached as Exhibit "A" is a petition requesting an "air-conditioned recliner bus" signed by 21 passengers on this route. The petitioners state their willingness to pay the requested \$8.00 per week for the better bus and ask the Commission's early consideration of the matter. Also attached is Exhibit "B", a statement of support signed by a Vice President of Rockwell International.

Applicant informs the Commission staff that this route is presently operated with a 1954 GMC TDM 4512-081 bus, License 601 10W, with non-reclining straight-back seats and no air conditioner, and that a comfortable, reliable bus, equipped with reclining seats and air conditioning, is available and will be placed into service on this route upon approval of this application. Applicant assures the staff that the present bus will not be reassigned to any of Douglas' routes that are now being operated with newer buses or buses equipped with reclining seats or air-conditioning and, further, that the instant route will henceforth be operated with reliable, air-conditioned reclining seat buses. The \$8.00 is comparable to fares on other similar Douglas routes.

We find that the increase sought by the applicant is justified and should be authorized, subject to the conditions set forth in the following order.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Applicant, Douglas Bus Lines, Inc., is authorized to increase its weekly passenger fare on Route 32 between Area 4 (Lynwood and Vicinity) and the Rockwell International-Autonetics Group plant in Anaheim to \$8.00. 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 granted in paragraph (1) above is conditioned upon applicant (a) replacing the non-airconditioned bus with straight-back seats, now in service on Route 32, with a reliable air-conditioned bus with reclining seats, prior to or concurrent with establishment of the authorized increased fare and (b) continuing to operate air-conditioned, reclining seat buses on all other routes presently being operated with such equipment.

3. The authority herein granted shall expire unless exercised within 90 days after the effective date of this order.

4. In addition to the required posting and filing of tariffs, applicant shall give notice to the public by posting in its bus(es) used on Route 32 an explanation of this increased fare. Such notice shall be posted not less than five days before the effective date of the fare change and shall remain posted thereafter for a period of not less than 30 days.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at _____, California, this 18th
day of NOVEMBER, 1975.

William J. Symons Jr.
President
William L. Lutzinger
Robert A. [illegible]
Commissioners