

Decision 89 07 052

JUL 19 1989

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Santa Rosa Airporter,)
Inc. (PSC-1367) to establish a zone)
of rate freedom and individual fares)
for passenger stage service between)
points in authorized service area)
and San Francisco International)
Airport.)

Application 89-04-009
(Filed April 6, 1989)

OPINION

Applicant Santa Rosa Airporter, Inc., a passenger stage corporation, seeks authority to establish fares within a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) between the lower limit of the ZORF of \$4, and \$2 below the present fares from or to Santa Rosa Division and from or to all other points, respectively, and the upper limit of the ZORF of \$8, \$5, \$6, and \$2 from or to Ukiah, Ukiah Division (Hopland, Cloverdale, Healdsburg), Santa Rosa Division (Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Petaluma), and Marin Division (Novato, Marinwood, Terra Linda, San Rafael, Corte Madera, and Mill Valley), respectively, above the present fares.

Notice of the filing of the application appeared in the Commission's Daily Transportation Calendar of April 11, 1989. No protests to the application have been received, and the Tariff and License Branch staff of the Transportation Division recommends that the Commission grant the proposed authority, ex parte.

Applicant states that, in the course of its operations, it competes for passengers to and from points in its authorized service area and the San Francisco International Airport (SFO) against taxicabs, limousines, two shuttle airlines (United and American, Sonoma County Airport direct to SFO), as well as against two passenger stage carriers, Airport Express and Marin Airporter.

An income statement attached to the application shows an excess of expenses over revenues of \$30,033 for calendar year 1988 on total revenues of \$1,564,585.

In its Ukiah Division, applicant proposes a rate of \$8 above and \$2 below its current rate from Ukiah to SFO, and \$5 above and \$2 below its current rate for Hopland, Cloverdale, and Healdsburg. Adult one way fares presently range from \$22 at Ukiah to \$14 at Healdsburg.

In its Santa Rosa Division (Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, and Petaluma), applicant proposes a rate of \$6 above and \$4 below its current rate which, for example, is \$12 one way for one adult.

In its Marin Division (Novato, Marinwood, Terra Linda, San Rafael, Corte Madera, and Mill Valley), applicant proposes a rate of \$2 above and \$2 below its current rates which, for example, range from \$12 adult one way from Novato to \$8 adult one way from Mill Valley.

Findings of Fact

1. Applicant operates as a passenger stage corporation serving between points in Marin, Sonoma, and Mendocino Counties and SFO.
2. In the conduct of its operations, it experiences competition from competitive Commission authorized bus companies and other carriers.
3. Applicant requests that it be authorized to establish a ZORF ranging from \$8 above to \$4 below its present fares at various points of service.
4. Competitive pressures in the market serve to keep fares competitive among carriers.
5. Applicant's proposed ZORF will enable it to respond to changing market conditions in a timely manner while maintaining sufficient operating ratios so that it can operate profitably.
6. The competitive transportation services will result in reasonable rates when considered along with the proposed ZORF.

7. The granting of an exemption to the long-and-short-haul provisions of Public Utilities (PU) Code § 460 is appropriate in this case.

8. A public hearing is not necessary.

Conclusions of Law

1. The application should be granted as set forth in the ensuing order.

2. This order should be effective on the date signed because there is an immediate need for the requested relief.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Santa Rosa Airporter, Inc. is authorized to establish fares within a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) between the lower limit of the ZORF of \$4, and \$2 below the present fares from or to Santa Rosa Division and from or to all other points, respectively, and the upper limit of the ZORF of \$8, \$5, \$6, and \$2 from or to Ukiah, Ukiah Division (Hopland, Cloverdale, Healdsburg), Santa Rosa Division (Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Petaluma), and Marin Division (Novato, Marinwood, Terra Linda, San Rafael, Corte Madera, and Mill Valley), respectively, above the present fares.

2. Applicant shall file a tariff based on the ZORF on no less than 10 days' notice to the Commission and the public subject to Commission approval. The authority for ZORF shall expire unless exercised within 60 days after the effective date of this order.

3. Any fare changes within its ZORF may be made by Applicant by filing and amending its tariff on no less than 10 days' notice to the Commission and the public. The tariff shall include for each fare point, the authorized maximum fare, the authorized minimum fare, and the fare to be actually charged.

4. Applicant is relieved from the provisions of the long-and-short-haul requirements of PU Code § 460 in establishing the authorized ZORF fares.

5. In addition to posting and filing tariffs, applicant shall post a printed explanation of its fares in its fare passenger carrying vehicles and terminals. The notice shall be posted at least five days before the effective date of the fare changes and shall remain posted for at least 30 days.

6. The application is granted as set forth above.

This order is effective today.

Dated JUL 19 1989, at San Francisco, California.

G. MITCHELL WILK
President
FREDERICK R. DUDA
STANLEY W. HULETT
JOHN B. OHANIAN
Commissioners

Commissioner Patrick M. Eckert,
being necessarily absent, did
not participate.

I CERTIFY THAT THIS DECISION
WAS APPROVED BY THE ABOVE
COMMISSIONERS TODAY.



Victor Weisser, Executive Director