

Mailed

APR 24 1991

Decision 91-04-053 April 24, 1991

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of )  
 Abia Transit, Inc., a California )  
 corporation, dba Abia Airport )  
 Shuttle, for the authority to )  
 increase fares and to establish a )  
 Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) for the )  
 transportation of passengers between )  
 points in both Los Angeles and Orange )  
 Counties, on the one hand, and, on )  
 the other, Los Angeles International )  
 Burbank, Long Beach Municipal, and )  
 John Wayne Airports and LA and Long )  
 Beach Harbors. )

**ORIGINAL**

Application 91-01-037  
(Filed January 28, 1991)

OPINION

Abia Transit, Inc., dba Abia Airport Shuttle, (applicant) requests authority to increase rates and to establish a zone of rate freedom (ZORF) under Public Utilities (PU) Code § 454.2 between points within its authorized service area and to deviate from the long- and short-haul provisions of PU Code § 460.

Applicant conducts operations as a passenger stage corporation, transporting passengers on an on-call basis between points in various communities in Los Angeles and Orange Counties and the airports listed in the caption (PSC-1356). Applicant's service competes with other substantially similar passenger stage transportation services.

Applicant proposes to increase its current rates by about 10%, although some rates will be increased and some rates will be reduced. Applicant cites increased fuel costs, maintenance costs, and insurance costs which have caused a loss of over \$40,000 in 1990.

Findings of Fact

1. Applicant is operating in competition with other substantially similar passenger stage transportation services.
2. Applicant has lost over \$40,000 from operations in 1990 and seeks a rate increase.
3. The rates proposed by applicant in Exhibit G to its application are just and reasonable.
4. Applicant requests authority to establish a ZORF of -\$3 to +\$5 around its existing rates.
5. The competitive transportation services will result in reasonable rates when considered with the ZORF authorized below.
6. The granting of an exemption from the long- and short-haul provisions of PU Code § 460 is appropriate in this case.
7. The Commission has received no requests for notification under PU Code § 730.3.
8. Notice of the filing of the application appeared in the Daily Transportation Calendar.
9. No protests have been received.

Conclusions of Law

1. The application should be granted.
2. Before applicant charges rates under the ZORF authorized below, 10 days' notice should be given to the Commission.
3. The filing of ZORF rates should be accompanied by a tariff amendment showing for each route, the high and low ends of the ZORF, and the then currently effective rate.
4. No rates should be reduced to zero by application of the ZORF.
5. A public hearing is not necessary.
6. In order to make the proposed rate changes available as soon as possible, the following order should be effective immediately.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Abia Transit, Inc., dba Abia Airport Shuttle, (applicant) is authorized to establish the increases and decreases in rates (rules or fares) proposed in Application 91-01-037. Tariffs shall be filed on or after the effective date of this order. They may go into effect 5 days or more after the effective date of this order on not less than 5 days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

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

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

4. Applicant may set rates within a zones of rate freedom (ZORF) between the lower limit of the ZORF (\$3 below the currently authorized rate, except where the ZORF would reduce a rate to zero) and the upper limit of the ZORF (\$5 above the currently authorized rate).

5. Applicant shall file a ZORF tariff on not less than 10 days' notice to the Commission and to the public and subject to Commission approval. The ZORF authority shall expire unless exercised within 60 days after the effective date of this order.

6. Applicant may make rate changes within the ZORF by filing amended tariffs on not less than 10 days' notice to the Commission and to the public. The tariff shall include for each route the authorized maximum and minimum rates and the rate to be charged.

7. Applicant is exempted from the long- and short-haul provisions of PU Code § 460 in setting the authorized ZORF rates.

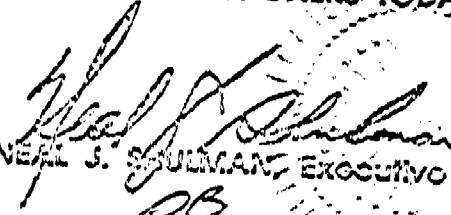
8. In addition to posting and filing proposed tariff changes, applicant shall post notices explaining rate changes in its terminals and passenger-carrying vehicles. The notices shall be posted at least 5 days before the effective date of the rate changes and shall remain posted for at least 30 days.

9. This is a final order and the proceeding is closed.  
This order is effective today.

Dated April 24, 1991, at San Francisco, California.

PATRICIA M. ECKERT  
President  
G. MITCHELL WILK  
JOHN B. OHANIAN  
DANIEL Wm. FESSLER  
NORMAN D. SHUMWAY  
Commissioners

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

  
NEAL J. SCHULMAN, Executive Director  
PB

