Decision 92 09 051 September 2, 1992

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of METRO SHUTTLE, a California Corporation, dba BEST SHUTTLE (PSC-5858) to Establish a Zone of Rate Freedom and Individual Fares for Passenger Stage Service between Points in Authorized Southern California Service Areas and Southern California Airports.

Application 92-06-032 (Filed June 26, 1992)

### OPINION

Metro Shuttle, a California corporation, doing business as Best Shuttle (Applicant), a passenger stage corporation (PSC-5858), requests authority to establish a zone of rate freedom (ZORF) to increase existing fares under Public Utilities (PU) Code § 454.2. Applicant transports passengers and their baggage on an "on-call" basis between certain portions of Los Angeles and Orange Counties, on the one hand, and the airports of Los Angeles International, Burbank, Long Beach, John Wayne, and the Los Angeles Amtrak Station, on the other hand.

Applicant's existing fares have been in effect since April 20, 1990. These fares were granted by Decision 90-03-008 and are published in their Local Passenger Tariff No. 1.

Applicant requests a ZORF for all of its service points as indicated in Exhibits "D" and "E". The proposed ZORF would be 20% above and 10% below its present fares.

Exhibit "B" is an unaudited Income Statement for the three months ending March 31, 1992 that indicates gross revenue of \$234,786, expenses of \$273,155 and a loss of \$38,369.

Applicant also competes with other passenger stage corporations, taxi cabs, limousines, buses, and automobiles in its service area.

The proposed ZORF when implemented, may conflict with PU Code § 460. Applicant should be exempted from the long- and short-haul provisions of PU Code § 460.

## Findings of Fact

- 1. Applicant is a passenger stage corporation operating on an "on-call" basis between certain portions of Los Angeles and Orange Counties, on the one hand, and the airports of Los Angeles International, Burbank, Long Béach, and John Wayne, and the Los Angeles Amtrak Station, on the other hand.
- 2. Applicant requests authority for a ZORF for all of its service points as proposed in Exhibits "D" and "E" of its application. The proposed ZORF would be 20% above and 10% below its present fares.
- 3. Applicant competes with passenger stage corporations, taxi cabs, limousines, buses, and automobiles in its operations.
- 4. The granting of an exemption to the long- and shorthaul provisions of PU Code § 460 is appropriate in this case.
- 5. Notice of the filing of the application appeared on the July 1, 1992 Daily Transportation Calendar.
  - 6. No protests have been received.
  - 7. A public hearing is not necessary.

# Conclusions of Law

- The application for ZORF should be granted.
- Before applicant charges fares under the ZORF authorized below, it should give this Commission 10 days' notice.
- 3. The filing of ZORF fares should be accompanied by a tariff amendment showing between each service point and the airport the high and low ends of the ZORF and the then currently effective rate.
- 4. In order to make the proposed fare changes available as soon as possible, the following order should be effective on the date of this decision.

#### ORDER

## IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. Metro Shuttle, a California corporation, doing business as Best Shuttle (Applicant), is authorized under Public Utilities (PU) Code § 454.2 to establish fares within a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) between the lower limit of the ZORF of 10% below the present fares and the upper limit of the ZORF of 20% above the present fares.
- 2. Applicant shall file a ZORF tariff in accordance with the application on not less than 10 days' notice to the Commission and to the public and subject to Commission approval. The ZORF shall expire unless exercised within 60 days after the effective date of this order.
- 3. Applicant may make 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 fares and the fare to be charged.
- 4. Applicant is exempted from the long- and short-haul provision of PU Code § 460 in setting the authorized ZORF fares.
- 5. In addition to posting and filing tariffs, applicant shall post notices explaining fare changes in its terminals and passenger-carrying vehicles. Such notices shall be posted at least 5 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 September 2,1992, at San Francisco, California.

DANIEL Wm. FESSLER
Président
JOHN B. OHANIAN
NORMAN D. SHUMWAY
Commissioners

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

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