

ORIGINAL

APR - 6 1982

Decision 82 04 060

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of YOSEMITE PARK AND CURRY CO. for authority to increase its per capita rates pursuant to Section 454 of the Public Utilities Code in connection with its intrastate passenger stage transportation service and its corresponding express service.

Application 61024 (Filed November 3, 1981)

Table with 8 columns and 2 rows of data, likely representing rates or costs for different services.

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Yosemite Park and Curry Co. (applicant), a corporation, operates concessions in Yosemite National Park, (Yosemite). It conducts passenger stage operations (PSC-109), transporting passengers, newspapers, and package express between Merced, Modesto, Fresno, and Lee Vining, on the one hand, and Yosemite, on the other hand, and serves intermediate points. It also performs transportation service within Yosemite which is regulated by the National Park Service and performs charter-party operations under the authority of TCP-76-A.

Applicant seeks authority to increase its intrastate

intercity passenger fares which are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission. The following table sets forth the present and proposed through fares between the termini indicated and the amount and percent of the increase sought:

Between Yosemite National Park and	Fare Authorized by Decision 91775		Proposed Fares		Increase		% of Increase	
	One Way	Round Trip	One Way	Round Trip	One Way	Round Trip	One Way	Round Trip
	Merced	\$10.50	\$21.00	\$13.00	\$26.00	\$2.50	\$5.00	23.8%
Fresno	\$13.00	\$26.00	\$16.25	\$32.50	\$3.25	\$6.50	25.0%	25.0%
Lee Vining	13.00	26.00	16.25	32.50	3.25	6.50	25.0	25.0

Applicant also proposes to increase the one-way and round-trip fares involving authorized intermediate points on each route by approximately 25%. According to the application, the intermediate traffic accounts for a very small volume of the traffic handled. Applicant also proposed to increase express rates by 100%.

Applicant's passenger fares were last increased by authority of Decision (D.) 91775 dated May 6, 1980 in Application (A.) 59241. Express rates were last increased by D.71897 dated January 24, 1967 in A.48614.

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The application states that applicant's business is seasonal in nature, and most of its revenues from intrastate intercity passenger transportation are received during the months of July, August, and September; a substantial portion of

applicant's transportation business consists of group tours, which are arranged by travel agents several months in advance; applicant is currently preparing brochures for mailing to travel agents and others which will contain transportation fares for the summer of 1982, and applicant does not wish to raise its fares after such brochures are relied upon by the persons arranging group tours.

The following tabulation developed from data in the Annual Report to the Commission shows the earnings of the company and the separation to the Transportation Division and to the Intrastate Intercity Service for the year 1980 as prepared by the staff.

	Total Company	Transportation Division	Intrastate Intercity Service
Operating Revenues	\$43,545,296	\$2,205,351	\$618,273
Operating Expenses	38,477,020	1,960,489	691,634
Operating Income	5,068,276	244,862	-73,361
Other Income (Net)	1,055,762	3,409	1,572
Provision for Income Taxes	2,814,000	110,947	-34,432
Net Income	3,310,038	130,506	-40,501
Operating Ratio (after Income Taxes)	94.8%	93.9%	106.3

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The following tabulation shows an estimate at present and proposed fares for the future year 1982 using the staff separation for the year 1980 and the percentage increases used by the company.

	Intrastate	Intercity	Operations
Estimated Year 1982			
Item	Present Rates	Proposed Rates	
Operating Revenue	\$634,049	\$793,084	
Operating Expenses	742,164	742,164	
Operating Income	(90,115)	50,920	
Provision for Income Taxes	(42,130)	22,675	
Net Income	(47,985)	28,245	
Operating Ratio	110.4%	97.1%	

(Red Figure)

Since the present rates were authorized by D.91775, dated May 26, 1980, there have been increases in expenses, particularly for fuel, equipment maintenance, and labor. Applicant is presently operating at a loss. The results of operations show that with the proposed fare increase, the operating ratio of the passenger stage service would be approximately 97.1%. The proposed rates are reasonable in light of the increasing demands placed on applicants. Such rates are necessary to ensure the continued viability of this transportation service.

Operating Ratio (Income Taxes)

Notice of the filing of this application and the rates proposed was served on interested parties according to the Commission's rules. The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar on November 3, 1981. The Commission notified affected public transit district operators of the application under Public Utilities Code Sections 730.3 and 730.5, and the Commission requested the public agencies to prepare an analysis of the effect of fare increase on overall transportation problems within the territory served by the public transit system. No response has been received from any public transit district. The fare increase will not affect transit system plans prepared under Chapter 2.5 of Title 7 of the Government Code.

Findings of Fact

1. The requested fare increase would result in additional \$158,338 in passenger revenue and \$697 in express revenue.
2. The proposed fare increase is justified.
3. A public hearing is not necessary.
4. Since the fare increase is necessary to ensure applicant's continued operations, the effective date of this order should be the date of signature.

Conclusion of Law

The increased fares are reasonable and justified.

ORDERED

IT IS ORDERED that the Board of Directors of Yosemite Park and Curry Co. is authorized to increase its fares and rates as set forth in Application 61024. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order may be made effective not earlier than 10 days after the effective date of this order and not less than 10 days notice to the Commission and to the public. The authority shall expire unless exercised within 90 days after the effective date of this order.

By the Commission

- 1. The proposed fare increases would result in additional passenger revenue of \$33,333 in 1962 and \$33,333 in 1963.
- 2. The proposed fare increases are justified.
- 3. A public hearing is not necessary.
- 4. Since the fare increases are necessary to ensure continued operation of the business, the effective date of this order should be the date of signature.

Commissioner of Law

The increased rates are reasonable and justified.

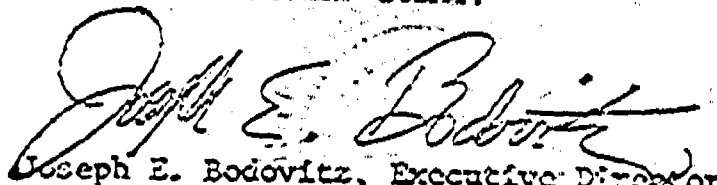
3. In addition to the required posting and filing of tariffs, applicant shall give notice to the public by posting in its buses and terminals a printed explanation of its fares. Such notice shall be posted not less than 10 days before the effective date of the fare changes and shall remain posted for a period of not less than 30 days.

This order is effective today.

Dated APR 6 1982, at San Francisco, California.

JOHN E. BRYSON
President
RICHARD D. GRAVELLE
LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.
VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C. GREW
Commissioners

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


Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director