

ORIGINAL

Decision SZ 08 040 AUG 4 - 1982

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application of STURON INTERNATIONAL, INC., dba The Co-Ordinators, for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate a sight-seeing tour service between metropolitan Orange County and points in Los Angeles and San Diego counties.

Application 82-06-28
(Filed June 10, 1982)

INTERIM OPINION

Sturon International, Inc., dba The Co-Ordinators, requests a certificate of public convenience and necessity under Public Utilities Code Section 1031 to conduct sight-seeing-tour operations. Applicant proposes to operate the following service:

A daily pickup service from various hotels and motels throughout Orange County, then to applicant's terminal, and from there over fixed routes for tours of Los Angeles and the Queen Mary in Long Beach, and "Sea World", an amusement attraction located in San Diego.

Applicant currently holds passenger stage and charter-party authority from this Commission. Applicant alleges it has sufficient equipment to accommodate its needs under existing authority, and has the financial ability to purchase or lease additional equipment as the need arises for the proposed service.

Applicant alleges its officers have been in the tour and travel business for 16 years and are personally fit to conduct the sightseeing-tour operations proposed in this application. It further alleges that there is a need for the proposed service.

Copies of this application have been served upon various sightseeing-tour companies in the area and applicant alleges that the service it proposes is different from the services provided by other carriers in that the other carriers do not have a tour guide on board the bus as proposed by applicant. A protest was filed by the Gray Line Tours Co.

In Decision (D.) 93726 in Application 59818 et al., issued November 13, 1981, we found that sightseeing-tour service over a loop is not that of a passenger stage corporation. However, the portion of that decision completely eliminating our regulation over sightseeing-tour carriers will not become effective until after judicial review. We announced in D.93726 that during this transitional period we would grant pending applications ex parte with temporary operating authority upon a showing that applicant had adequate public liability insurance. Accordingly, we will grant this application. Applicant must file evidence of the required minimum insurance coverage set by General Order 101 before operations begin.

Findings of Fact

1. The proposed operations are sightseeing-tour service over a loop.
2. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

Conclusion of Law

Temporary operating authority should be granted; since there is an alleged need for the proposed service and liability insurance set by General Order 101 will be required before operations begin, the following order should be effective today.

Only the amount paid to the State for operative rights may be used in rate fixing. The State may grant any number of rights and may cancel or modify the monopoly feature of these rights at any time.

INTERIM ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Sturon International, Inc. is granted a temporary certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate a sightseeing-tour service over the routes proposed in the application until further order of the Commission and is assigned Passenger Stage Corporation PSC-964. A permanent certificate prepared by this Commission may be issued by a final order.

2. Applicant shall:
- a. File a written acceptance of this certificate within 30 days after this order is effective.
 - b. Establish the authorized service and file tariffs and timetables within 120 days after this order is effective.
 - c. State in its tariffs and timetables when service will start; allow at least 10 days' notice to the Commission; and make timetables and tariffs effective 10 or more days after this order is effective.
 - d. Comply with General Orders Series 79, 98, 101, and 104, and the California Highway Patrol safety rules.
 - e. Maintain accounting records in conformity with the Uniform System of Accounts.

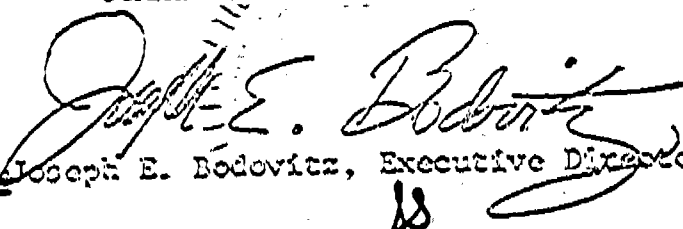
This order is effective today.

Dated AUG 4 1982, at San Francisco, California.

JOHN E. BRYSON
President
LEONARD M. GRIMES, JR.
VICTOR CALVO
PRISCILLA C. GREW
COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Richard D. Gravelle, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.

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


-4- Joseph E. Bodovitz, Executive Director
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