

Decision No. 88348 JAN 17 1978**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Aztec Bus Lines)
 for authority to increase)
 passenger fare)

Application No. 57655
 (Filed October 28, 1977)

O P I N I O N

Aztec Bus Lines, Inc. (Aztec), operates sightseeing service as a passenger stage corporation (PSC-656) between San Diego and Anaheim (Disneyland), as well as a charter-party carrier pursuant to Class "A" Charter Certificate TCP-92-A. Aztec was formerly known as Willingham Bus Lines, Inc.; the corporate name having been changed in 1974. Aztec's primary business is charter, having operated 3,103,453 charter bus miles in 1976, as compared with only 33,620 miles in this passenger stage service.

The present and proposed round-trip fares for the subject sightseeing transportation are as follows:

	<u>Present Fares</u>	<u>Proposed Fares</u>
Adult	\$4.50	\$10.50
Junior	2.25	6.50

The present fares have not been increased since they were authorized in 1966 (Decision 72462 in Application 49002). Applicant recites that "Since inauguration of said service in December 1966, operating costs have increased dramatically ...", a not unexpected circumstance considering the length of time involved and the rapid inflation experienced in recent years.

By comparison with the above present and proposed fares, Greyhound Lines, Inc., the principal statewide passenger stage corporation, presently collects \$12.18 for a round trip between San Diego and Anaheim. As a result of this fare increase, Aztec's present passenger stage revenues of \$50,000 will increase by an estimated \$75,000, comprising less than five percent of Aztec's total gross operating revenue.

Notice of the filing of this application was listed in the Commission's Daily Calendar. Additionally, the Commission staff notified affected public transit operators and planning agencies of the receipt of this application, pursuant to California Public Utilities Code Sections 730.3 and 730.5. No protests or adverse comments have been received.

After consideration, the Commission finds that the requested increase is justified and a public hearing is not necessary.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Aztec Bus Lines, Inc., is authorized to establish round-trip fares of \$10.50 per adult and \$6.50 per junior, as proposed in the application. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order may be made effective after the effective date of this order on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

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

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

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 17th day of JANUARY, 1978.

William Squires Jr President
Vernon L. Sturgeon
Robert P. Gault
Clair T. Deibel Commissioners

-2- Commissioner Robert Batinovich, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.