

Decision No. 89642 : NOV 9 1978

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application )  
of ORANGE BELT STAGES For an Order )  
Authorizing an Increase in Its )  
Fares for Intrastate Passenger )  
Stage Service and Its Rates for )  
Intrastate Express Service. )

Application No. 58041  
(Filed May 1, 1978)

O P I N I O N

Orange Belt Stages, a passenger stage corporation (PSC-885), is engaged in the business of transporting passengers, baggage and express between points in California. Applicant operates three divisions of service on intrastate routes in the vicinity of Visalia: (1) the Bakersfield-Barstow portion of Greyhound-Orange Belt joint through service, (2) local operations and (3) intrastate charters (TCP-169-A).

Applicant seeks authority to increase its intrastate passenger stage fares by approximately 15 percent.

Applicant also seeks authority to increase its intrastate express rates by approximately eight percent. There is no justification for local express rates beyond 150 miles due to the limitation of existing route lengths currently certificated.

The staff of the Transportation Division has made an analysis of the applicant's operations, and submitted a report identified and received as Exhibit 1 on the estimated results of operations based on the future year ending December 31, 1978, under present and proposed passenger fares and express rates, which is summarized as follows:

Item	Intrastate Passenger Stage Operations		
	1977	Rate Year 1978	
	Historical	Present	Proposed
	Year	Fares & Rates	Fares & Rates
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Revenues	\$ 254,939	\$ 254,939	\$ 288,221
Expenses	378,833	387,978	389,821
Operating Income	-123,894	-133,039	-101,600
Income Taxes	200	200	200
Net Income	-124,094	-133,239	-101,800
Operating Ratio-%	148.68	152.26	135.32

Source

- (1) Exhibit 1 Table 1 Column 9.
- (2) Exhibit 1 Table 2 Column 9.
- (3) Exhibit 1 Table 3 Column 9.

In accordance with Sections 730.3 and 730.5 of the Public Utilities Code, the State and local agencies operating or planning public transit systems were notified and asked for comments regarding the proposed rate increase. The City of San Luis Obispo notified the Commission that the proposed increase would have no effect upon its operations. No other comments were received by the Commission.

Notice of the filing of this application appeared on the Commission's Daily Calendar on May 4, 1978. No protests or requests for public hearing have been received.

After consideration, the Commission finds that:

1. The requested fare and rate increases would result in additional annual revenue of approximately \$33,282.
2. The proposed fare and rate increases are justified.
3. A public hearing is not necessary.

The Commission concludes that the requested passenger fare and express rate increases should be granted.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Orange Belt Stages is authorized to establish the increased passenger fares proposed in Application No. 58041, and is authorized to increase its local express rates as proposed to and including 150 miles. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order shall be filed not earlier than the effective date of this order and may be made effective not earlier than ten days after the effective date of this order on not less than ten days' notice to the Commission and to the public.

2. The 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 and terminals a printed explanation of its passenger fares and express rates. Such notice shall be posted not less than five days before the effective date of the passenger fare and express rate changes and shall remain posted for a period of not less than thirty days.

In view of the applicant's loss, the effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California this 9th day of NOVEMBER, 1978.

Robert Bateman  
President

William Lyons, Jr.

Verizon L. Sturgeon

Robert D. Gault

Clare J. Sedore  
Commissioners