Decision No. 20225

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE

Application of Ardella Cook an individual, doing business) as DESERT STAGE LINES, for authority to adjust its rates.

Application No. 58390 (Filed October 2, 1978)

<u>OPINION</u>

Ardella Cook, an individual, doing business as Desert Stage Lines, is operating as a Passenger Stage Corporation (PSC-927) between Twentynine Palms Marine Corps Base on the one hand and Palm Springs, Los Angeles and San Diego on the other hand.

By this application, Ardella Cook seeks to increase her fares by approximately five percent.

The present fares were originally established by Decision No. 87532 in Application 57192, dated June 28, 1978.

Applicant alleges that her present fares do not yield sufficient revenue to allow her to conduct her passenger operations at a profit.

Applicant further alleges that additional revenue is required because of increased cost in all phases of operation, including fuel, insurance, labor and maintenance.

The staff adjusted estimated results of operations based on the future year ending June 30, 1979, under present and proposed fares are shown below:

<u>Item</u>	Present Fares	Requested Fares	
Revenues	\$ 159,165	\$ 167,123	
Expenses	\$ 159,037	\$ 159,037	
Net Income	\$ 128	\$ 8,086	
Operating Ratio -%	99	95	

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. No replies were received.

Notice of filing of this application appeared in the Commission's Daily Calendar on October 2, 1978. No protests have been received.

After consideration the Commission finds that:

- 1. The requested fare increase would result in additional annual revenue of \$7,959.
 - 2. The proposed fare increase is justified.
 - 3. A public hearing is unnecessary.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. Ardella Cook, doing business as Desert Stage Lines, is authorized to establish the increased fare proposed in Application No. 58390. Tariff publications authorized to be made as a result of this order may be filed not earlier than the effective date of this order and made effective not earlier than on five 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 her buses and terminals, a printed explanation of her 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.

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