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SEP 12 1979

SOS13

Decision

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application )  
of Mountain Rambler Enterprises )  
for certificate of public con- )  
venience and necessity to operate )  
passenger stage and express )  
service between Visalia and var- )  
ious trailheads in the Sierra )  
Nevada. )

Application No. 58916  
(Filed June 7, 1979)

O P I N I O N

By this application, David C. Breedlove and Christopher L. de St. Croix, doing business as Mountain Rambler Enterprises, a partnership, seeks authority from the Commission for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to establish a passenger stage corporation for the operation of a bus service between the Hanford Amtrak Station, Goshen Bus Depot, Visalia Municipal Airport and the Visalia Bus Depot on the one hand and various trailheads in the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and adjacent National Forests on both the west and east sides of the Sierra Nevada Range on the other hand.

Applicants propose to utilize standard 12 and 15 passenger vans to provide the service. The proposed service is to be "on call." The service is to be offered year round.

Applicants' proposed fares are as follows:

Basic fares are for trips originating in Visalia, and/or returning to Visalia. <sup>1/</sup> Baggage allowance is one 65# backpack and one set of skis and poles.

1/ Extra charge for pickup at Hanford Amtrak depot: \$5.

<u>Destination</u>	<u>Single Fare</u>		<u>One Way Mileage</u>
	<u>One Way</u>	<u>Round Trip</u> <sup>2/</sup>	
Cedar Grove/Roads End	\$ 15	\$ 25	80
Big Meadows/Horse Corral	12	20	65
Wolverton/Crescent Meadow	12	20	50
Buckeye Flat	10	17	40
Mineral King	12	20	55
South Fork Kaweah	10	17	35
Balch Park/Doyle Spring	12	20	60
Quaking Aspen	10	17	40
Johnsondale/King River	15	25	85
Lone Pine/Whitney Portal	35	60	260
Independence/Onion Valley	38	65	290
Big Pine/Glacier Lodge	45	75	360
Bishop/Lake Sabrina	50	85	395

<sup>2/</sup> Round trip fare applies to prepaid arrangements for definite time and place for return pickup. All other return trip passengers picked up at the trailhead will be charged at the one-way rate on a space-available basis.

Applicants state that the only available passenger stage service runs daily from Giant Forest Visitor Center by way of the Generals Highway and Grant Grove Visitor Center to the Fresno Air, Bus and Amtrak Depots. No other scheduled or on-call service is available into the parks.

The service would reduce the needs for trailhead parking and access roads. The service would permit backpackers to enter the back country at one point and exit at another. Fuel consumption would be reduced and air pollution would be less.

As of June 1, 1979 applicants indicated assets of \$30,000.

The application was listed on the Commission's Daily Calendar of June 8, 1979. The Commission's Transportation Division staff has reviewed the application and recommends that in the absence of protest or requests for public hearing it be granted. No protest has been received.

After consideration, the Commission finds that a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate as a passenger stage corporation should be granted to the applicants to the extent set forth in the ensuing order. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the project involved in this proceeding may have a significant effect on the environment.

Applicants are placed on notice that operative rights, as such, do not constitute a class of property which may be capitalized nor used as an element of value in rate fixing for any amount of money in excess of that originally paid to the State as the consideration for the granting of such rights. Aside from their purely permissive aspect, such rights extend to the holder a full or partial monopoly of a class of business. This monopoly feature may be modified or canceled at any time by the State, which is not in any respect limited as to the number of rights which may be given.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. A Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is granted to David C. Breedlove and Christopher L. de St. Croix, doing business as Mountain Rambler Enterprises, authorizing them to operate as a Passenger Stage Corporation, as defined in Section 226 of the Public Utilities Code, between the points and over the route set forth in Appendix A of this decision.

2. In providing service pursuant to the authority granted by this order, applicants shall comply with the following service regulations. Failure so to do may result in a cancelation of the authority.

- (a) Within thirty days after the effective date of this order, applicants shall file a written acceptance of the certificate granted. Applicants are placed on notice that if they accept the certificate they will be required, among other things, to comply with the safety rules administered by the California Highway Patrol, the rules and other regulations of the Commission's General Order 98-A Series and the insurance requirements of the Commission's General Order 101-Series.
- (b) Within one hundred twenty days after the effective date of this order, applicants shall establish the authorized service and file tariffs and timetables in triplicate, in the Commission's office.
- (c) The tariff and timetable filings shall be made effective not earlier than five days after the effective date of this order on not less than five days' notice to the Commission and the public, and the effective date of the tariff and timetable filings shall be concurrent with the establishment of the authorized service.
- (d) The tariff and timetable filings made pursuant to this order shall comply with the regulations governing the construction and filing of tariffs and timetables set forth in the Commission's General Orders 79-Series and 98-Series.

- (e) Applicants shall maintain their accounting records on a calendar year basis in conformance with the applicable Uniform System of Accounts or Chart of Accounts as prescribed or adopted by this Commission and shall file with the Commission, on or before March 31 of each year, an annual report of their operations in such form, content and number of copies as the Commission, from time to time, shall prescribe.

The effective date of this order shall be thirty days after the date hereof. SEP 12 1979  
Dated \_\_\_\_\_, at San Francisco, California.

*John E. Byrne*  
President  
*Francis L. Steyer*  
*Richard D. Koval*  
*Clare J. Dwyer*  
*Lawrence J. ...*  
Commissioners

David C. Breedlove  
and  
Christopher L. de St. Croix  
Doing Business As  
MOUNTAIN RAMBLER ENTERPRISES

Appendix A

Original Title Page

CERTIFICATE  
OF  
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY  
TO OPERATE  
AS A PASSENGER STAGE CORPORATION  
PSC 1079

Showing passenger stage operative rights, restrictions, limitations,  
exceptions and privileges applicable thereto.

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All changes and amendments as authorized by the Public Utilities  
Commission of the State of California will be made as revised  
pages or added original pages.

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Issued under authority of Decision No. 90813, dated  
SEP 12 1979, of the Public Utilities Commission  
of the State of California, in Application No. 58916.

David C. Breedlove  
and  
Christopher L. de St. Croix  
Doing Business As  
MOUNTAIN RAMBLER ENTERPRISES

Appendix A

Original Page 1

SECTION 1. GENERAL AUTHORIZATIONS, RESTRICTIONS, LIMITATIONS  
AND SPECIFICATIONS:

David C. Breedlove and Christopher L. de St. Croix, doing business as Mountain Rambler Enterprises, by Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity granted by the decision noted in the margin, is authorized as a passenger stage corporation to transport passengers and their baggage between the Hanford Amtrak Station, Goshen Bus Depot, Visalia Municipal Airport and the Visalia Bus Depot on the one hand and various trailheads in the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks and adjacent National Forests on both the West and East sides of the Sierra Nevada Range as set out more fully in Section 2 on the other hand, over and along the routes hereinafter described, subject, however to the authority of this Commission to change or modify said routes at any time and subject to the following provisions:

- (a) The term "on-call" as used herein refers to service which is authorized to be rendered dependent on the demands of passengers. The tariffs and timetables shall show the conditions under which each authorized "on-call" service will be rendered.
- (b) Service shall be rendered in van type vehicles with a passenger capacity not to exceed 15 including the driver.
- (c) Only passengers with origin or destination in Kings Canyon National Park, Sequoia National Park, Sequoia National Forest, Inyo National Forest or Sierra National Forest shall be transported.

Issued by California Public Utilities Commission.

Decision No. 90813, Application 58916.

David C. Breedlove  
and  
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Appendix A

Original Page 2

SECTION 2.        ROUTE DESCRIPTIONS

Route 1:        GENERALS HIGHWAY-CEDAR GROVE

Commencing at the Hanford Amtrak Station, east on State Route 198 to SR 99, north on SR 99 to Goshen, south on SR 99 to SR 198, east on SR 198 to the Visalia Municipal Airport, east on SR 198 to the Visalia Bus Depot, east on SR 198 to SR 180, east on SR 180 to roads end, with optional stops at Buckeye Flat, Crescent Meadow, Wolverton, Big Meadow and Cedar Grove. Return over the same route.

Route 2.        MINERAL KING

Commencing at the Hanford Amtrak Station, east on State Route 198 to SR 99, north on SR 99 to Goshen, south on SR 99 to SR 193, east on SR 198 to the Visalia Municipal Airport, east on SR 198 to the Visalia Bus Depot, east on SR 198 to Mineral King Road, east on Mineral King Road to Mineral King with optional stops at Fork Kaweah and South Fork. Return over the same route.

Route 3.        EAST SLOPE

Commencing at the Hanford Amtrak Station, east on State Route 198 to SR 99, north on SR 99 to Goshen, south on SR 99 to SR 198, east on SR 198 to the Visalia Municipal Airport, east on SR 198 to the Visalia Bus Depot, south on SR 63 to SR 99, south on SR 99 to SR 58 to SR 14, north on SR 14 to SR 395, north on SR 395 to Bishop with optional stops at Whitney Portal Onion Valley, Glacier Lodge and Lake Subring. Return over the same route.

Route 4:        QUAKING ASPEN

Commencing at the Hanford Amtrak Station, east on State Route 198 to SR 99, north on SR 99 to Goshen, south on SR 99 to SR 198, east on SR 198 to the Visalia Municipal Airport, east on SR 198 to the Visalia Bus Depot, east on SR 198 to SR 190 east on SR 190 to Quaking Aspen with optional stops at Balch Park, Doyle and Johnsondale. Return over the same route.

(END OF APPENDIX A)

Issued by California Public Utilities Commission.

Decision No. 90813, Application 58916.