

ACB

Decision No. 91776 MAY 6 1980

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)

24 HOUR AIRPORT EXPRESS, INC.)

for authority to increase its passenger)
stage corporation fares.)

Application No. 59411
(Filed January 29, 1980)

O P I N I O N

24 HOUR AIRPORT EXPRESS, INC. provides an on-call, door-to-door passenger stage corporation service (PSC-1043) between Los Angeles International Airport, Orange County Airport, Hollywood-Burbank Airport, Long Beach Airport and Ontario International Airport, on the one hand, and all points and places in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Service Area, on the other hand. It also holds and operates under charter party carrier of passengers Permit No. TCP-325-P.

Applicant hereby requests authority to increase each of its present one-way fares for its passenger stage corporation service by \$4.00 which will increase applicant's annual revenues by \$237,660 and will result in a profit of \$61,538 before taxes and \$43,288 after taxes, and operating ratios of 96% and 97.2% before and after taxes, respectively.

By Decision No. 90946, dated October 13, 1979, the applicant was authorized to increase its fares by \$2.00 to offset the higher charges for fuel. Justification for that increase was solely predicated upon the increased price of fuel. At the time that study was made, the price per gallon was 74 cents. However, the average cost for fuel is currently 92 cents per gallon. Applicant has been experiencing steadily increasing

direct and indirect costs, in addition to the skyrocketing fuel costs, over which it has no control and, unless a fare adjustment is granted as early as practicable, the business and service for the public will be materially adversely affected.

The proposed rates qualify for an exemption under the President's Guidelines for Wage and Price Increase since they are necessary to insure the continued viability of this transportation service.

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.

Findings

After consideration, the Commission finds that:

1. Since the applicant's present rates were established, October 13, 1979, it has experienced increases in operating expenses, the most significant being fuel.

2. The requested fare increase will result in an additional annual gross revenue of approximately \$237,660.

3. The proposed fares are necessary to compensate for the rising costs of operation.

4. The fare increase requested in Application ⁵⁹⁴¹¹~~59147~~ is justified. SS

5. No protests have been received concerning this application.

6. A public hearing is not necessary.

The Commission concludes that the application should be granted.

ORDER

1. 24 HOUR AIRPORT EXPRESS, INC. is authorized to establish the increased passenger stage fares proposed in Application 59411. 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 ~~or~~ ^{or} not less than ten days' notice ^{to} 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 vehicles a printed explanation of its fares. Such notice shall be posted not less than ten days before the effective date of the fare changes and shall remain posted for a period of not less than thirty days.

Since there is an immediate need for the relief sought, the effective date of this order shall be the date hereof.

Dated MAY 6 1980 , at San Francisco, California.

John E. Guya
President

William L. Sturgeon

Richard W. Howell

Charles J. ...

Donald ...
Commissioners