

T/FS

Decision No. 92209

SEP 3- 1980

**ORIGINAL**

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the matter of the application )  
of FRANCISCAN LINES, INC., a )  
California corporation, For an )  
interim fare increase on its )  
Livermore and Danville commute )  
runs. )

Application No. 59812  
(Filed July 14, 1980)

O P I N I O N

Franciscan Lines, Inc. (Franciscan) operates as a Passenger Stage Corporation (PSC-890) providing a commute service from Livermore, Danville and Alamo to San Francisco. The carrier also operates under Charter-party Certificate TCP 149-A.

By this instant application, Franciscan requests authority to increase the fares for the commute service by 15 percent as follows:

20-Ride Commute Fares

<u>Between</u>	<u>And</u>	<u>Present Fare</u>	<u>Proposed Fare</u>
Livermore	San Francisco	\$43.50	\$50.00
Livermore	Oakland	36.75	42.25
Danville/ Alamo	San Francisco	38.65	44.45

The present fares became effective February 14, 1979 under the authority granted by Decision 89926 in Application 58392.

By Application 59679 filed May 20, 1980, Franciscan requested authority to increase the fares from Livermore by 70% and from Danville by 30%. The carrier was advised that because of the adverse public reaction and the large percentage increase, the staff would make a detailed engineering-economic study of the operations. Franciscan filed the instant application requesting partial relief during the interim period.

According to data included in the application for the year 1979, the Livermore operation sustained a loss of \$13,538 after elimination of interest expense and the Danville operation netted \$13,017 for a net loss of \$521. Also from Exhibit C of the application, it can be seen that the requested increase will result in increases in gross revenue of \$8,321 for Livermore and \$14,975 for Danville with a total increase of \$23,296.

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 on the Commission's Daily Calendar. Additionally, the 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.

#### F I N D I N G S

After consideration, the Commission finds that:

1. Since the applicant's present rates were established, February 14, 1974, it has experienced increases in operating expenses, the most significant being fuel and wages.
2. The requested fare increase will result in an additional annual gross revenue of approximately \$23,296.
3. The proposed fare increase is necessary to compensate for the rising costs of operation.
4. The fare increase requested in Application 59812 is justified.

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5. No protests have been received concerning this application.
6. A public hearing is not necessary.
7. There is an immediate need for rate relief.

We conclude that Application 59812 should be granted, and the effective date of the order should be the date hereof.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Franciscan Lines, Inc. is authorized to establish the increased passenger stage fares as requested in Application 59812. Tariff publications authorized to be made effective 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 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.

The effective date of this order is the date hereof.

Dated SEP 3 - 1980 at San Francisco, California.

John E. Boyer  
President

Veronica L. Johnson

Richard W. Howell

Clare J. Sedgwick

Donald W. Smith  
Commissioners