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Decision 98-01-001 January 7, 1998

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
Mini-Bus Systems, Inc., doing business as
(dba) SuperShuttle San Gabriel, for authority
to establish a Zone-of-Rate-Freedom
pursuant to Section 454.2 of the Public
Utilities Code.

ORIGINAL

Application 97-09-016
(Filed September 25, 1997)

OPINION

Mini-Bus Systems, Inc. (applicant), a corporation, requests authority to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) pursuant to Public Utilities (PU) Code § 454.2.

Applicant is authorized by Decision 97-05-065 to operate as an "on-call" passenger stage corporation (PSC-8016) between points in the Counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura, south of the Los Padres National Forest (LABASIN), on the one hand, and Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbors (HBR), AMTRAK Union Station, Los Angeles (AMTRAK), Palm Springs Rail Station (PSR), and the airports of Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport (BUR), John Wayne (SNA), Long Beach (LGB), Los Angeles International (LAX), Ontario International (ONT), Palm Springs (PS), and San Bernardino (SB), on the other hand.

Applicant requests authority to establish a ZORF of \$12 above and below its present authorized adult one-way fares as published in its Tariff, CAL PUC 2, filed with the Commission. The present fares range between \$5 (Downtown Los Angeles-AMTRAK) and \$415 (Parker Dam-HBR) and have been in effect since December 19, 1993. The minimum fare shall be not less than \$5 for any adult one-way fare. Applicant also requested relief from the long- and short-haul provisions of the PU Code § 460. However, in applicant's letter of November 6, 1997, addressed to the Rail Safety and Carriers Division (staff), it requested to withdraw from such relief.

The staff is of the opinion that the establishment of the ZORF of \$12 is fair and reasonable.

Applicant competes with other passenger stage corporations, taxi cabs, limousines, buses, and automobiles in its service area.

Notice of filing of the application appeared in the Commission's Daily Calendar on September 29, 1997. No protest has been received. The applicant notified the affected airports and cities. The staff recommends that the application be granted.

Findings of Fact

1. Applicant is authorized to operate as an "on-call" passenger stage corporation (PSC-8016) between points in the LABASIN, on the one hand, and HBR, AMTRAK, PSR, and the airports of BUR, SNA, LGB, LAX, ONT, PS, and SB, on the other hand.

2. Applicant requests authority to establish a ZORF of \$12 above and below its present fares published in its Local Passenger Tariff CAL PUC 2, but not less than a minimum fare of \$5 one-way. The ZORF is fair and reasonable.

3. Applicant competes with passenger stage corporations, taxi cabs, limousines, buses, and automobiles in its operations.

4. Applicant has withdrawn its request to be relieved from the long- and short-haul provisions of PU Code § 460.

5. No protests to the application have been filed.

Conclusions of Law

1. The application for a ZORF should be granted.

2. Before applicant changes fares under the ZORF authorized below, applicant should give this Commission 10 days' notice.

3. The filing of ZORF fares should be accompanied by a tariff amendment showing between each service point the high and low ends of the ZORF and the then currently effective fare.

4. In order to make the proposed fare changes available as soon as possible, the following order should be effective on the date of this decision.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Mini-Bus Systems, Inc. (applicant), a corporation, is authorized under Public Utilities (PU) Code § 454.2 to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) fares of \$12 below and above its present authorized fares published in its Local Passenger Tariff CAL PUC 2. The minimum fare shall not be less than \$5 one-way.

2. Applicant shall file a ZORF tariff in accordance with the application on not less than 10 days' notice to the Commission and to the public and subject to Commission approval. The ZORF shall expire unless exercised within 60 days after the effective date of this order.

3. Applicant may make changes within the ZORF by filing amended tariffs on not less than 10 days' notice to the Commission and to the public. The tariff shall include between each service points the authorized maximum and minimum fares and the fare to be charged.

4. In addition to posting and filing tariffs, applicant shall post notices explaining fare changes in its terminals and passenger-carrying vehicles. Such notices shall be posted at least 5 days before the effective date of the fare changes and shall remain posted for at least 30 days.

5. The application, as amended by applicant's letter of November 6, 1997, is granted as set forth above.

A.97-09-016 ALJ/KLK/tcg

6. Application 97-09-046 is closed.

This order is effective today.

Dated January 7, 1998, at San Francisco, California.

P. GREGORY CONLON

President

JESSIE J. KNIGHT, JR.

HENRY M. DUQUE

JOSIAH L. NEEPER

RICHARD A. BILAS

Commissioners