

Decision 99-02-011 February 4, 1999

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of MILTON
McDONOGH, dba ANGEL ISLAND FERRY, for
Authorization to Increase Passenger Fares.

Application 98-09-010
(Filed September 2, 1998)

O P I N I O N

Summary of Decision

In this decision, we authorize Milton McDonogh, dba Angel Island Ferry (Angel Island Ferry), to increase its currently published fares for ferry service between Tiburon and Angel Island. The fare increases are reasonable and are justified by the financial information and other evidence furnished in support of its request.

Background

Angel Island Ferry is a common carrier engaged in the transportation of passengers between Tiburon and Angel Island pursuant to a certificate of public convenience and necessity granted in Decision (D.) 60037 and D.60801.

On September 2, 1998, Angel Island Ferry filed this application seeking an increase in its fares¹:

	Present Fare	Proposed Fare
Adult Round Trip	\$3.00	\$4.00
Child Round Trip	2.00	3.00
Child (under 5)	Free	Free

¹ These fares do not include the park admittance fee of \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children which is paid to the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

In its application, Angel Island Ferry stated that its present fares are contained in its passenger tariff Cal. P.U.C. No.1 and were established on June 6, 1987, in Resolution M-4742. Angel Island Ferry's financial analysis showed that its present fares will result in an operating loss for calendar year 1998 and an operating ratio of 107%. The proposed rates will result in an operating income of \$48,940 and an operating ratio of 93%.

Notice of the application appeared in Commission's calendar on September 22, 1998. In ALJ Resolution 176-3000, the proceeding was preliminarily categorized as ratesetting with no hearing required. No party protested the application or categorization or determination of no need for a hearing.

Discussion and Conclusion

The information furnished with the verified application demonstrates that the requested fare increase is justified. Angel Island Ferry has not increased its fares in over a decade and is projected to operate at a loss absent the fare increase requested in this application. This evidence is uncontradicted, and we therefore conclude that the application should be granted.

This is an uncontested matter in which the decision grants the relief requested. Accordingly, pursuant to Public Utilities Code § 311(g)(2), the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is being waived.

Findings of Fact

1. Angel Island Ferry is a common carrier engaged in the transportation of passengers between Tiburon and Angel Island pursuant to a certificate of public convenience and necessity granted in D.60037 and D.60801.

2. Angel Island Ferry's present fares are contained in its passenger tariff Cal. P.U.C. No.1 and were established on June 6, 1987, in Resolution M-4742.

3. Angel Island Ferry's financial analysis showed that its present fares are projected to result in an operating loss for calendar year 1998 and an operating ratio of 107%. The proposed rates are projected to result in an operating income of \$48,940 and an operating ratio of 93%.

4. Notice of the application appeared in the Commission's calendar on September 22, 1998.

5. No protests were filed.

6. The requested fare increases are reasonable.

7. The fare increases are justified on the evidence presented.

Conclusion of Law

Angel Island's application for fare increases should be granted.

ORDER

Therefore, IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Milton McDonogh, dba Angel Island Ferry, is authorized to establish the increased passenger fares as follows:

	Increased Fare
Adult Round Trip	\$4.00
Child Round Trip	3.00
Child (under 5)	Free

2. Revised tariffs may be filed on or after the effective date of this order. They may become effective 5 days or more after the effective date of this order provided that the Commission and the public are not given less than 5 days' notice.

3. This authority will expire unless exercised within 90 days after the effective date of this order.

4. In addition to the required posting and filing of tariffs, applicant shall give notice to the public by posting in applicant's operating vessels a printed explanation of the fares. Such notice shall be posted not less than 5 days before the effective date of the fare change and shall remain posted for a period of not less than 30 days.

5. This application is granted as set forth above.

6. This proceeding is closed.

This order is effective today.

Dated February 4, 1999, at San Francisco, California.

RICHARD A. BILAS
President
HENRY M. DUQUE
JOSIAH L. NEEPER
Commissioners