

Decision 99-09-004 September 2, 1999

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of Ventura County Shuttle Inc., dba Ventura County Airporter, operating under authority granted by Decision D.93-09-032, to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom for its tariff rates.

Application 99-05-001
(Filed May 4, 1999)

OPINION

Summary

This decision grants the application of Ventura County Shuttle, Inc. (applicant), a corporation, to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 454.2.

Discussion

Applicant is authorized by Decision 93-09-032 to operate as a scheduled passenger stage corporation (PSC-6291) between Oxnard Municipal Airport (Oxnard) and Doubletree Hotel, City of Ventura (Ventura), on the one hand, and Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), on the other hand.

Applicant requests authority, as amended by its letter of June 29, 1999, to establish a ZORF of \$10 above and \$5 below its present adult one-way fare of \$20, as published in its Local Passenger Tariff, CA PUC 1.

The staff is of the opinion that the establishment of the ZORF of \$10 above and \$5 below its present fare 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 May 6, 1999. The applicant notified the affected airports and cities.

In Resolution ALJ 176-3015 dated May 13, 1999, the Commission preliminarily categorized this application as ratesetting, and preliminarily determined that hearings were not necessary. No protests have been received. The Commission's Rail Safety and Carriers Division recommends that this application be granted. Given this status, public hearing is not necessary, and it is not necessary to alter the preliminary determinations made in Resolution ALJ 176-3015.

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

Findings of Fact

1. Applicant is currently authorized to operate a scheduled passenger stage corporation (PSC-6291) between Oxnard and Ventura, on the one hand, and LAX, on the other hand.
2. Applicant requests authority to establish a ZORF of \$10 above and \$5 below its present adult one-way fare of \$20, as published in its Local Passenger Tariff, CA PUC 1. The ZORF is fair and reasonable.
3. Applicant competes with passenger stage corporations, taxi cabs, limousines, buses, and automobiles in its operations.
4. No protests to the application have been filed.

Conclusions of Law

1. The application, as amended by letter of June 29, 1999, 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 pair of service points 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.

O R D E R

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. Ventura County Shuttle Inc. (applicant), a corporation, is authorized under Public Utilities (PU) Code § 454.2 to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) of \$10 above and \$5 below its present authorized adult one-way fare of \$20, published in its Local Passenger Tariff No. 1.

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 pair of 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 letter of June 29, 1999, is granted as set forth above.

A.99-05-001 ALJ/KLK/eap

6. This proceeding is closed.

This order is effective today.

Dated September 2, 1999, at San Francisco, California.

RICHARD A. BILAS
President
HENRY M. DUQUE
JOSIAH L. NEEPER
JOEL Z. HYATT
CARL W. WOOD
Commissioners