PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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BESQLUTION

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RESOLUTION SR-40. AUTHORITY TO OPERATE PASSENGER TRAIN EXCURSIONS ON AUGUST 15, AND SEPTEMBER 19, 1992 ON THE TRACKS OF THE NORTH COAST RAILROAD BETWEEN EUREKA AND FORT SEWARD, CALIFORNIA.

The North Coast Railroad Company requests authority to operate excursion passenger train service on Saturday, August 15 and Saturday, September 19, 1992 between Eureka and Fort Seward, California. The California Public Utilities Commission staff has received a letter dated June 26, 1992 from the North Coast Railroad through its General Manager, Mr. John Kosack, requesting this authority. The letter has been submitted to satisfy the requirements of the Public Utilities Commission in authorizing this service. The letter provides the following details of the service:

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- 1. The carrier would like to operate special passenger excursion trains on August 15 and September 19, 1992 between Eureka and Fort Seward which is approximately a 140-mile round trip.
- 2. The trains would leave Eureka at 8:00AM and operate to Fort Seward and return to Eureka at 5:00PM.
- 3. The fare for adults would be \$75.00 and \$35.00 for children. Approximately 275 passengers are expected on each run.
- 4. The railroad will have liability insurance of not less than \$2,000,000 for all passenger service on the dates of operation requested. This is in addition to its general liability insurance coverage.

The Safety Division reports that during the week of July 20, 1992, one of its railroad track inspectors inspected the carrier's railroad track between Eureka and Fort Seward and found defects that the carrier will correct before it begins passenger operations. The portion of track to be used is not included in a



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Federal Railroad Administration's emergency order that precludes passenger service on other portions of the railroad.

Based on the information contained in the letter and on the Safety Division's inspection, we conclude that the request is reasonable and agree that the carrier may operate the passenger trains as it requests, provided that the carrier complies with the conditions set forth herein and otherwise operates the passenger service in a manner consistent with public safety.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

The requested authority is hereby granted subject to the following conditions:

- Track, equipment, and operation shall be maintained according to applicable sections in the Code of Federal Regulations applying to common carrier railroad corporations, as well as all state regulations, including sections of the California Public Utilities code and applicable general orders of the Public Utilities Commission.
- Liability insurance requirements of not less than \$2,000,000 in addition to the carrier's general liability insurance coverage shall be provided for each of the passenger runs operated.
- 3. A radio-equipped track patrol car manned by railroad personnel shall precede each passenger train operating between Eureka and Fort Seward and return to Eureka. Personnel on this car shall physically inspect the South Portal of Tunnel 40 before the passage of each run to insure train safety.
- 4. Before the carrier begins passenger service, it shall correct all defective track conditions found by the Safety Division's track inspection during the week of July 20.

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- 5. The entire operations shall be conducted in accordance with the operating rules and Emergency Plan of the North Coast Railroad.
- 6. This Resolution is effective today.

I certify that the resolution was adopted by the Public Utilities Commission on its regular conference on <u>AUGUST 11, 1992</u>. The following Commissioners approved it.

NIAL J. SHULMAN

Executive Director

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DANIEL Wm. FESSLER President PATRICIA M. ECKERT NORMAN D. SHUMWAY COmmissioners

Commissioner John B. Ohanian, being necessarily absent, did not participate.