

Decision \_\_\_\_\_

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the matter of the Application of Goldline Transport LLC, a California Limited Liability Company, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to provide regularly scheduled passenger stage service, between points in El Dorado and Sacramento counties, on the one hand, and Sacramento International Airport, on the other hand; and, to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom.

Application 13-09-009  
(Filed September 17, 2013)

**D E C I S I O N   G R A N T I N G   A P P L I C A T I O N****Summary**

This decision grants the application of Goldline Transport, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company, pursuant to Pub. Util. Code §§ 1031, et seq., for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate as a Passenger Stage Corporation, as defined in Pub. Util. Code § 226, and to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 454.2.

**Discussion**

Goldline Transport, LLC, (Applicant) requests authority to operate as a scheduled Passenger Stage Corporation (PSC) to transport passengers between points in El Dorado County and Sacramento County, on the one hand, and Sacramento International Airport (SMF), on the other hand.

This proposed service will focus on the Highway 50 corridor, and the customer base consists of residents, business travelers, tourists, students, families, and visitors to outlying El Dorado County and portions of Sacramento

County. The proposed regularly scheduled service will operate daily with three buses, one roundtrip per bus per day, seven (7) days a week, 365 days a year. A 24-hours reservation is required to guarantee service, and to prevent inconvenience to other passengers.

Applicant states that there is a need for this proposed service and states that a competitive, properly licensed, and reliable scheduled bus service to and from SMF has not yet been provided. This proposed service would encourage the public to share ride and reduce congestion on the highways. A California Environmental Quality Act review is not necessary because this will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment.

Applicant states it is a new company formed by experienced business owners and long-term residents of El Dorado County. The experience of the principals of the Applicant includes over 22 years in the transportation industry as dispatcher and terminal manager for large transportation companies.

The proposed one-way fare for adults is \$65. Discounts will be offered for adults traveling together, senior citizens, and the handicapped. Children five years of age or younger will be transported free of charge.

Applicant requests authority to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) of \$20 above and below the proposed fares. The minimum fare will be \$45. It states that it will be competing with single party charter (TCP), taxi-cab, rental car, on-call shuttle services, and private automobiles. This competitive environment should result in Applicant pricing its service at a reasonable level.

Applicant provided a balance sheet (Exhibit D) as of July 12, 2013, indicating total assets of \$453,334, total liabilities of \$246,950, and net worth of \$206,384.

Notice of filing of the application appeared in the Commission's Daily Calendar on September 18, 2013. Applicant served notice of the application to

the involved cities, counties, airport, and public transit operators in the service area

In Resolution ALJ 176-3322, dated September 19, 2013, the Commission preliminarily categorized this application as ratesetting, and preliminarily determined that hearings were not necessary. No protest has been received. Given this status, public hearing is not necessary, and it is not necessary to alter the preliminary determinations made in Resolution ALJ 176-3322.

### **Waiver of Comment Period**

This is an uncontested matter in which the decision grants the relief requested. Accordingly, pursuant to Section 311(g)(2) of the Public Utilities Code and Rule 14.6(c)(2) of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, the otherwise applicable 30-day period for public review and comment is waived.

### **Safety Considerations**

In order to be authorized to commence operations as a PSC, the Applicant must comply with the following requirements in order to protect public safety: Proof of insurance pursuant to General Order Series 101, compliance with the controlled substance and alcohol testing program pursuant to Pub. Util. Code §1032.1 and General Order Series 158, and enrollment in the pull notice system as required by Section 1808.1 of the Vehicle Code.

### **Assignment of Proceeding**

Emory J. Hagan, III is the assigned Examiner in this proceeding.

### **Findings of Fact**

1. The application requests authority to operate as a scheduled PSC to transport passengers between points in El Dorado County and Sacramento County and SMF.
2. Public convenience and necessity requires the proposed service.

3. Applicant requests authority to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom of \$20 above and below the proposed fares. The minimum fare will be \$45.
4. Applicant will compete with other means of passenger transportation.
5. No protest to the application has been filed.
6. A public hearing is not necessary.
7. Proposed service will reduce the number of vehicles on the public highways therefore it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant adverse effect on the environment.

### **Conclusions of Law**

1. Public convenience and necessity has been demonstrated and the application should be granted.
2. The request for a ZORF should be granted because the ZORF is fair and reasonable.
3. Before Applicant changes any fares under the ZORF authorized below, Applicant should give this Commission at least ten days' notice. The tariff should show the high and low ends of the ZORF and the then currently effective fare between each pair of service points.
4. Since the matter is uncontested, the decision should be effective on the date it is signed.
5. Only the amount paid to the State for operative rights may be used in rate fixing. The State may grant any number of rights and may cancel or modify these rights at any time.

**O R D E R**

**IT IS ORDERED** that:

1. A Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is granted to Goldline Transport, LLC, a California Limited Liability Company, authorizing it to operate as a Passenger Stage Corporation (PSC), as defined in Pub. Util. Code § 226, to transport passengers between the points and over the routes set forth in Appendix PSC-31998, subject to the conditions contained in the following Ordering Paragraphs.

2. Goldline Transport, LLC, shall:

- a. File a written acceptance of this certificate within 30 days after this order is effective.
- b. Establish the authorized service and file tariffs and timetables within 120 days after this order is effective.
- c. File tariffs on or after the effective date of this order. They shall become effective ten days or more after the effective date of this order, provided that the Commission and the public are given not less than ten days' notice.
- d. Comply with Commission's General Orders Series 101 and 158, and the California Highway Patrol safety rules.
- e. Comply with the controlled substance and alcohol testing certification program pursuant to Pub. Util. Code § 1032.1 and General Order Series 158.
- f. Remit to the Commission the Transportation Reimbursement Fee required by Pub. Util. Code § 423 when notified by mail to do so. Failure to comply with this filing will result in suspension and/or revocation of authority.
- g. Comply with Pub. Util. Code §§ 460.7 and 1043, relating to the Workers' Compensation laws of this state.
- h. Enroll all drivers in the Pull Notice System as required by Vehicle Code § 1808.1.

3. Goldline Transport, LLC, is authorized under Pub. Util. Code § 454.2 to establish a Zone of Rate Freedom of \$20 above and below proposed fares. The minimum fare will be \$45.

4. Goldline Transport, LLC, shall file a Zone of Rate Freedom (ZORF) tariff with the Commission and the public in accordance with the application at least ten days before the effective date of the tariff. The ZORF shall expire unless exercised within 120 days after the effective date of this order.

5. Goldline Transport, LLC, may make changes within the Zone of Rate Freedom by filing amended tariffs with the Commission and the public in accordance with the application at least ten days before the effective date of the tariff. The tariff shall include the authorized maximum and minimum fares and the fare to be charged between each pair of service points.

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

7. Goldline Transport, LLC (Applicant), is authorized to begin operations on the date that the Safety and Enforcement Division mails a notice to applicant that its evidence of insurance and other documents required by Ordering Paragraph No. 2 have been filed with the Commission and that the California Highway Patrol has approved the use of Applicant's vehicles for service.

8. Before beginning service to Sacramento International Airport (SMF), Goldline Transport LLC (Applicant), shall notify the SMF's governing body. Applicant shall not operate into or on SMF property unless such operations are authorized by the SMF's governing body.

9. The Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to operate as Passenger Stage Corporation-31998, granted herein, expires unless exercised within 120 days after the effective date of this order.

10. The Application is granted as set forth above.

11. This proceeding is closed.

This order is effective today.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2013, at San Francisco, California.

CERTIFICATE  
OF  
PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY  
AS A PASSENGER STAGE CORPORATION  
PSC-31998

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Showing passenger stage operative rights, restrictions,  
limitations, exceptions, and privileges.

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All changes and amendments as authorized by  
the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California  
will be made as revised pages or added original pages.

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SECTION I. GENERAL AUTHORIZATIONS, RESTRICTIONS,  
LIMITATIONS, AND SPECIFICATIONS.

Goldline Transport, LLC, by the certificate of public convenience and necessity granted by the decision noted in the foot of the margin, is authorized to transport passengers and their baggage on a scheduled basis over the routes described in Section II, subject, however, to the authority of this Commission to change or modify this authority at any time and subject to the following provisions:

- a. When a route description is given in one direction, it applies to operation in either direction unless otherwise indicated.
- b. Service will be operated only at the points described in Section II. A description of all the stop points and the arrival and departure times from such points shall be indicated in the timetable filed with the Commission.
- c. Only passengers having a point of origin or destination of Sacramento International Airport shall be transported.
- d. This certificate does not authorize the holder to conduct any operation on the property of any airport unless such operation is authorized by the airport authority involved.

SECTION II. ROUTE DESCRIPTIONS.

Scheduled Service

Commencing from Sacramento International Airport (SMF), then over the most convenient streets, expressways, and highways to the cities/towns of Placerville, Cameron Park, El Dorado Hills, Folsom and Rancho Cordova.