

MEMORANDUM

November 18, 2003

TO: Gene Eckhardt, Regulatory Services  
Assistant Director, Transportation and Water Section

FROM: Bonnie L. Allen, Regulatory Analyst

SUBJECT: Application: D-79216 Docket: TC-031420

Wheatland Express, Inc.  
PO Box 125  
Pullman, WA 99163

I agree.  


Discussion

On September 2, 2003, Wheatland Express, Inc., filed Application No. D-79216 in Docket No. TC-031420 for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide passenger transportation service between Pullman, Colfax, and the Spokane International Airport.

Application No. D-79216 appeared on the Commission's September 29, 2003, application docket. No one filed a protest, petition to intervene, or application for overlapping authority during the docket and protest period. No existing auto transportation company certificate of public convenience and necessity appears to include authority to provide the proposed service in the territory requested.

The applicant filed a complete application and has no outstanding penalties, fines, administrative, or compliance actions pending before the commission.

Under the provisions of RCW 81.68.040 the Commission may grant an application with or without hearing when there is no existing certificate holder serving the requested territory. D-79216 is an uncontested application for authority to provide passenger transportation services that no existing certificate holder appears to have the authority to serve and therefore no hearing is required.

Recommendation

No hearing is required in this application and there are no issues that suggest staff should ask the Commission to set the application for hearing. Therefore, I recommend this application be forwarded to Licensing Staff to process and prepare an order to grant the application without a hearing.

(over)

NOTES TO STAFF:

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- The applicant must file verified statements supporting the need for service in the requested territory.
- Staff needs to finalize the company's revised tariff and schedule.