

Agenda Date: February 10, 2011
Item Number: B1

Docket: TS-110064
Company Name: Puget Sound Express, Inc., BC-118

Staff: Amy White, Regulatory Analyst
Dennis Shutler, Consumer Protection Staff

Recommendation

Take no action, thereby allowing the proposed rates filed by Puget Sound Express, Inc., on January 10, 2011, to become effective February 15, 2011, by operation of law.

Discussion

On January 6, 2011, Puget Sound Express, Inc. (Puget Sound Express or company), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) tariff revisions that would generate \$50,260 (12.7 percent) in additional annual revenue. Puget Sound Express operates a seasonal ferry service between Port Townsend and Friday Harbor. The company carried 4,914 passengers in 2010. The proposed rates are prompted by increases in labor, insurance, and fuel costs. Puget Sound Express' last increase in fares became effective on March 22, 2008.

The company posted the public notice of the increase on January 10, 2011, and filed a revised tariff page extending the effective date from February 10, 2011, to February 15, 2011. The commission has received no customer comments on this filing.

Rate Comparison **May 1 through October 29**

	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Percent Change
Adult - One Way	\$52.50	\$55.50	5.7%
Adult - Roundtrip Adult	\$78.50	\$88.50	12.7%
Child - One Way	\$42.50	\$42.50	No Change
Child - Roundtrip	\$53.50	\$48.50	-9.4%

Commission staff has completed its review of the company's supporting financial documents, books and records. Staff's review shows that the expenses are reasonable and required as part of Puget Sound Express' operations. The company's financial information supports the proposed revenue requirement and the proposed rates and charges are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

Conclusion

Take no action, thereby allowing the proposed rates filed by Puget Sound Express, Inc., on January 10, 2011, to become effective February 15, 2011, by operation of law.