BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of) DOCKET TC-141093
CWA, INC., DBA AIRPORTER SHUTTLE,)) ORDER 01)
) ORDER GRANTING
Requesting Forbearance from Rate and) FORBEARANCE FROM RATE
Service Regulation as an Auto) AND SERVICE REGULATION AS
Transportation Company Under) AN AUTO TRANSPORTATION
RCW 81.68.015) COMPANY
)

BACKGROUND

I On May 15, 2014, CWA, Inc., dba Airporter Shuttle (CWA or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition in Docket TC-141093, requesting that the Commission forbear from rate and service regulation under RCW 81.68.015 for auto transportation service between Yakima and Ellensburg, which is funded by a Washington State Department of Transportation (DOT) grant. The Company requests the petition be granted with a June 16, 2014, effective date.

DISCUSSION

- 2 RCW 81.68.015 states that Commission authority over auto transportation companies "... does not apply to a service carrying passengers for compensation over any public highway in this state between fixed termini or over a regular route if the Commission finds, with or without a hearing, that the service is provided pursuant to a contract with a state agency, or funded by a grant issued by the department of transportation, and that exemption from this chapter is otherwise in the public interest."
- *3* If the Commission grants forbearance from rate and service regulation, the Company would provide the service under a charter permit pursuant to RCW 81.70, which the Company already holds.
- 4 CWA holds the only auto transportation certificate that authorizes service between Yakima and Ellensburg. CWA's proposed service will not impact any other auto transportation company.

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⁵ The Commission's regulatory staff's (Staff) analysis concludes the proposed service between Yakima and Ellensburg is funded by a grant issued by the DOT. Considering all the facts and information presented in CWA's petition, Staff concludes the Company's request is in the public interest and recommends the Commission grant the Company's petition for relief from rate and service regulation as an auto transportation company effective June 16, 2014.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including auto transportation companies. RCW 80.01.040, RCW 81.01, RCW 81.04, RCW 81.28, RCW 81.68 and RCW 81.70.
- 7 (2) The services CWA provides fall within the scope of an auto transportation company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 8 (3) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 12, 2014.
- 9 (4) After review and analysis of the petition for an exemption filed in Docket TC-141093 by CWA and giving due consideration of all facts presented by the Company's petition and the criteria established by RCW 81.68.015, the Commission finds that the service offered by CWA is provided by contract with a state agency, and funded by a grant issued by the Washington State Department of Transportation and finds that the forbearance from rate and service regulation is in the public interest and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

10 (1) The request filed by CWA, Inc., dba Airporter Shuttle for forbearance from rate and service regulation under RCW 81.68.015 is granted.

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The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective June 12, 2014.

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STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary