BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Penalty Assessment Against

DOCKET TC-200658

ORDER 02

SHUTTLE EXPRESS, INC.,

in the amount of \$1,800

WAIVING PENALTY AND CLOSING DOCKET

BACKGROUND

- On August 17, 2020, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) issued a \$1,800 penalty (Penalty Assessment) against Shuttle Express, Inc. (Shuttle Express or Company).
- On August 27, 2020, Shuttle Express requested mitigation of the penalty, and on October
 5, 2020, the Commission entered Order 01, Granting Mitigation to \$1,000.
- 3 On October 28, 2020, Shuttle Express filed with the Commission a request for voluntary cancellation of its auto transportation and charter and excursion service certificates in Docket TC-200887.
- 4 On December 23, 2020, the Commission entered Order 01, Granting Exemption from Rule; Granting Permanent Discontinuation of Service, in Docket TC-200887, which acknowledged that Shuttle Express ceased providing service in March 2020 and authorized the Company to discontinue its regulated operations.
- 5 Also on December 23, 2020, Shuttle Express contacted the administrative law director via email and requested the Commission waive the \$1,000 penalty assessed in this Docket because the Company is financially insolvent and no longer provides service regulated by the Commission. Commission staff (Staff) indicated that it does not object to the Company's request.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

6 We grant the Company's request and waive the \$1,000 penalty. The Commission's primary objective in any enforcement action is to ensure compliance with a company's legal obligations; penalties both punish noncompliance and provide an incentive to comply in the future. Here, the assessed penalty furthers neither of these goals because the Company no longer operates in Washington. The Commission therefore waives the \$1,000 penalty assessed against Shuttle Express.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 7 (1) The \$1,000 penalty assessed by Order 01 in this Docket is waived, and no penalty is due.
- 8 (2) Docket TC-200658 is closed.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective December 24, 2020.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

/s/ *Rayne Pearson* RAYNE PEARSON Administrative Law Director