

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET TS-082160
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	ORDER 02
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	ORDER DISMISSING
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
ARGOSY LP,)	SUSPENDING TARIFF
)	REVISIONS; ALLOWING TARIFF
Respondent.)	REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On November 26, 2008, Argosy LP (Argosy or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a revision to both its commercial ferry (Locks Tour) and launch service tariffs seeking to increase rates. The proposed rate increase was expected to generate an additional \$46,429 (5 percent) in annual revenue. The Company’s filing is prompted by higher costs for fuel, moorage, insurance, employee pay and benefits. In addition to its proposed rate increase, the Company also filed a revision to its Locks Tour time schedule. The Company’s last rate increase became effective March 30, 2007.
- 2 On January 15, 2009, the Commission entered a Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions to determine whether the revisions are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
- 3 On February 23, 2009, in response to a joint petition filed by Argosy and Staff, the Commission cancelled the ferry service “Lock Tour” portion of Certificate BC-101 in Docket TS-090228. The launch service is Argosy’s only remaining regulated service. The Company proposes to increase rates for launch service by 4.3 percent.
- 4 Argosy provides launch service between Pier 56 in Seattle and East, West and North anchorage points located in Elliott Bay and Alki points, and between shore and ocean-going vessels at anchor in an area bound by Wells Point Williams and Point Vashon in the south. The Company states that in 2008, it provided launch service to four customers, operated ten trips, and earned \$4,000 annual revenue. To date for 2009, the launch service has made one trip for a total of \$437.50 revenue.

5 Commission Staff has completed its review of the Company's supporting financial documents, books and records for the launch service. Staff's review shows that the expenses are reasonable and required as part of the Company's operations. The Company's financial information supports the revenue requirement and the proposed rates and charges are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

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 the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including commercial ferries. *RCW 80.01.040, RCW 81.01, RCW 81.04, RCW 81.08, RCW 81.12, RCW81.16, and RCW 81.84.*
- 7 (2) Argosy is engaged in the business of providing commercial ferry services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 8 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 9, 2009.
- 9 (4) The tariff revisions presently under suspension are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient because Argosy has demonstrated that it requires additional revenues.
- 10 (5) After reviewing the tariff revisions Argosy filed in Docket TS-082160 and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public interest to dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket TS-082160, dated January 15, 2009, and allow the tariff revisions to become effective on April 13, 2009.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11* (1) The Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket TS-082160, entered on January 15, 2009, is dismissed.
- 12* (2) The launch service tariff revisions Argosy filed in this docket on November 26, 2008, shall become effective on April 13, 2009.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective April 13, 2009.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Chairman

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner