

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET TC-131154
TRANSPORTATION)	
COMMISSION,)	ORDER 01
)	
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
WICKKISER INTERNATIONAL)	
COMPANIES, INC. DBA)	
AIRPORTER SHUTTLE, C-933)	
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
Respondent.)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On June 17, 2013, Wickkiser International Companies, Inc., dba Airporter Shuttle (Wickkiser or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff No. 9. The Company proposes to increase charges and rates for service it provides by approximately \$500,000, or 12.1 percent. The requested effective date was July 15, 2013, which the Company extended to July 27, 2013, by letter filed on July 9, 2013.
- 2 The Company provides passenger transportation service to and from Sea-Tac International Airport (Sea-Tac) for nearly 150,000 passengers in multiple counties and cities north of the airport to the Canadian border. According to Wickkiser’s filing, fares for one-way service to or from Sea-Tac and Bellingham would increase by \$3.00 (8.9 percent); Burlington would increase by \$3.00 (10 percent); Ferndale would increase by \$5.00 (13.6 percent); and Marysville would increase by \$5.00 (23.8 percent). The Company would discount round-trip tickets by 10 percent and offer discounts to seniors, military personnel, and youth passengers. Wickkiser’s last fare increase was in 2005.
- 3 Commission Staff has requested financial documents, books, and records from Wickkiser in addition to the information the Company included in its tariff filing. Wickkiser has not yet responded to that request. Accordingly, Commission Staff states that it has not yet been able to complete its review of Wickkiser’s supporting materials to determine whether the Company requires additional revenues.

DISCUSSION

4 Wickkiser must demonstrate that the costs it incurs to provide service justify its proposed
rate increases, and the Company has not provided the Commission with sufficient
information to make that demonstration. Therefore, the Commission suspends the tariff
filing and will conduct an investigation to determine whether the proposed increases
would ultimately result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (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,
regulations, practices, accounts and affiliated interests of public service
companies, including auto transportation companies. RCW 80.01.040, RCW
81.01, RCW 81.04, RCW 81.16, RCW 81.28 and RCW 81.68.
- 6 (2) Wickkiser is an auto transportation company and a public service company
subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 7 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on
July 26, 2013.
- 8 (4) The tariff revisions Wickkiser filed on June 17, 2013, would increase charges and
rates for service provided by Wickkiser, and might injuriously affect the rights
and interest of the public.
- 9 (5) Wickkiser has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would ultimately
result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- 10 (6) In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as
authorized in RCW 81.04.130 and RCW 81.04.220, the Commission believes it is
necessary to investigate Wickkiser's books, accounts, practices and activities, and
to investigate and appraise various phases of Wickkiser's operations.
- 11 (7) As required by RCW 81.04.130, Wickkiser bears the burden of proof to show that
the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) The tariff revisions Wickkiser International Companies, Inc., dba Airporter Shuttle filed on June 17, 2013, are suspended.
- 13 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 14 (3) Wickkiser International Companies, Inc., dba Airporter Shuttle must not change or alter the tariffs filed in this Docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 15 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Wickkiser International Companies, Inc., dba Airporter Shuttle's books, accounts, practices, activities, and operations as described above.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective July 26, 2013.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Chairman

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Commissioner