

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

<p>In re Application TC-220090 of</p> <p>BEELINE TOURS LTD d/b/a SEATTLE EXPRESS</p> <p>For Extension of Certificate C-001052 of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate Motor Vehicles in Furnishing Passenger and Express Service as an Auto Transportation Company</p>	<p>DOCKET TC-220090</p> <p>ORDER 01</p> <p>GRANTING STAFF’S MOTION TO WITHDRAW</p>
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BACKGROUND

- 1 On February 10, 2022, Beeline Tours LTD d/b/a Seattle Express (Beeline) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) an application for an extension of its existing Bus Certificate (Application).¹ On February 15, 2022, the Commission served a Notice of the Application on its list of persons requesting such notification.
- 2 On March 16, 2022, Pacific Northwest Transportation Services, Inc., d/b/a Premier Airport Shuttle/Capital Aeroporter (PAS-CA) filed a protest to the Application.
- 3 On March 22, 2022, the Commission issued a Notice of Brief Adjudicative Proceeding; Setting Time for Oral Statements (Notice). The Notice identified Commission staff (Staff) as a party to the above-captioned proceeding.
- 4 On April 11, 2022, Staff filed a Motion to Withdraw. In its motion, Staff argues that the Commission should grant its request because representatives for the other parties to this case, Beeline and PAS-CA, have substantial experience appearing before the Commission and thus have the resources to fully develop the facts necessary for the Commission to decide this matter.

¹ A bus certificate is formally referred to in RCW 81.68 as a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate Motor Vehicles in Furnishing Passenger and Express Service as an Auto Transportation Company.

DISCUSSION

- 5 We grant Staff's motion to withdraw. Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-07-380(3)(a) provides that, once the Commission has issued a notice of hearing, a party may withdraw from an adjudicative proceeding only with permission from the Commission in response to a written motion. The Commission will grant such a motion when the requested withdrawal is in the public interest.²
- 6 This case concerns an alleged overlap between the service territories of two certificated auto transportation companies. As Staff observes, both companies have extensive experience appearing before the Commission and are well-versed in Commission processes. Additionally, the companies are best situated to provide testimony and evidence demonstrating the geographical areas in which they are authorized to provide service, any overlap between those areas, and the types of service each company is providing. In light of these circumstances, the Commission finds that Staff's motion is consistent with the public interest and concludes that it should be granted.

ORDER

- 7 **THE COMMISSION ORDERS That** Commission Staff's motion to withdraw as a party from this proceeding is GRANTED.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective April 11, 2022.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

/s/ Rayne Pearson
RAYNE PEARSON
Administrative Law Judge

² WAC 480-07-380(3)(b).