

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

PETITION OF SEATAC SHUTTLE, LLC]
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Requesting Forbearance from Rate]
And Service Regulation as an]
Autotransportation Company under]
RCW 81.68.015]

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1. SUMMARY OF PETITION

Seatac Shuttle, LLC (Seatac) is holder of certificate C-1077 issued by the Commission under RCW 81.68 to provide autotransportaion service within specific areas of the State of Washington as described within the authority of that certificate. Seatac also holds charter and excursion authority under certificate CH-456 issued by the Commission in accordance with RCW 81.70. An opportunity to further serve the public exists in providing transportation to occasional, non-essential events or venues for recreational purposes not currently permitted under the dual authority of Seatac. Therefore, Seatac petitions and requests the Commission’s forbearance of RCW 81.68.015.

2. Discussion

Seatac has been providing premier service to customers within its certificated authority for more than ten years. As the company’s passenger base has grown the number of requests to provide service to various occasional, recreational venues through Western Washington has increased. While the company has been able to service some of these requests under its current certifications, it has been limited by the ability to embark passengers at more than one location when providing that transportation. The nature of Seatac’s service area is linear with its northern passenger base separated by forty miles from its southern passenger base. Such geographical separation requires that under current regulations, a passenger desiring service to a Seattle area recreational venue must drive forty miles to the north to join service originating from that location. To make matters worse, the passenger is then transported back over the same forty miles the he has just traveled to be transported to the venue. The company’s service area does not contain a large number of prospective passengers, therefore for a trip to any given occasional venue to be economically viable; passengers must be drawn from our entire service area. RCW 81.68.015 permits such operations:

“This chapter 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 does not serve an essential transportation purpose, is solely for recreation, and would not adversely affect the operations of the holder of a certificate under this chapter, and that exemption from this chapter is otherwise in the public interest. Companies

providing these services must, however, obtain a permit under chapter [81.70 RCW](#).” Seatac holds such permit under RCW 81.70 required by the chapter.

PRAYER

Seatac requests the Commission grant forbearance from rate and service regulation, operating pursuant to its certificate under RCW 81.70, for operation of service from Whidbey Island, its certificated area of authority under RCW 81.68, that does not serve an essential transportation purpose, is solely for recreation, and would not adversely affect the operations of the holder of a certificate under this chapter and find that exemption from this chapter (81.68.015) is in the public interest.

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Respectfully submitted this 30th day of January, 2014,

Michael Lauver,
Member, Seatac Shuttle, LLC