Service Date: January 7, 2019

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Cancellation of the Charter and Excursion Carrier Certificates Held by

AIRPORT TRANSPORTER
ASSOCIATION, LLC, FOUR STAR
ENTERPRISES LLC, NORTHWEST
SHUTTLE LLC, PENINSULA BREW
TOURS, LLC, AND VICKY SANDHU,

for Failure to File Annual Reports.

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ORDER CANCELLING CERTIFICATES

BACKGROUND

- Charter and excursion carriers regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) must file annual reports and pay regulatory fees annually pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-30-071(2) and WAC 480-30-076(2). These rules provide that the Commission may cancel a charter and excursion carrier's certificate for failure to file its annual report or pay its regulatory fees. In addition, WAC 480-30-171(2) authorizes the Commission to cancel a charter or excursion carrier's certificate for cause, including failure to file an annual report or pay required fees.
- On October 15, 2018, the Commission served Airport Transporter Association, LLC, Four Star Enterprises LLC, Northwest Shuttle LLC, Peninsula Brew Tours, LLC, and Vicky Sandhu (collectively, the Companies) with a Notice of Intent to Cancel Certification as a Charter and Excursion Carrier and Opportunity to Request a Hearing (Notice) for failure to file 2017 annual reports. The Notice informed the Companies that their certificates would be cancelled without further notice unless the Companies filed

¹Although proof of certified service was not returned for Peninsula Brew Tours, LLC, electronic copies of the complaint were also served. Under WAC 480-07-150(4), the Commission may serve documents electronically except where proof of service is required by law. The Commission's Final Order adopting changes to WAC 480-07 accepted Staff's position that electronic service is acceptable for commencing adjudicative proceedings against regulated companies. *See* General Order 588 – Final Adoption Order – WSR 17-06-051, Docket A-130355 ¶16 and Appendix A (March 2, 2017). Accordingly, Peninsula Brew Tours, LLC was properly served by electronic mail.

their delinquent annual reports or requested a hearing to demonstrate why its certificate should not be cancelled within 30 days of the date the Notice was served.²

The Commission did not receive a request for hearing and did not receive 2017 annual reports from any of the Companies.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

- The Commission exercises its discretion to cancel the Companies' charter and excursion carrier certificates. The Commission's ultimate goal in any enforcement action is to ensure compliance with applicable statutes and rules. WAC 480-30-071(2), WAC 480-30-076(2), and RCW 81.70.350 require charter and excursion carriers to file annual reports and pay regulatory fees by May 1 of each year. The Companies did not make the requisite filing. Accordingly, the Commission notified the Companies that their certificates would be cancelled unless the Companies filed their annual reports or requested a hearing within 30 days. The Companies did not file annual reports and pay regulatory fees or otherwise respond.
- If a company is unwilling to comply with its regulatory obligations, it is no longer fit, willing, and able to provide regulated service. We find that the Companies' failure to file annual reports and pay regulatory fees are willful violations of the laws the Commission is charged with enforcing that disqualify the Companies from providing charter and excursion service in Washington. The Commission, therefore, cancels the Companies' charter and excursion carrier certificates effective the day this Order is served.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington with the authority to regulate charter and excursion carriers as defined in RCW 81.70.
- 7 (2) The Companies hold authority from the Commission to operate as charter and excursion carriers.
- On October 15, 2018, the Commission notified the Companies that their certificates to operate as charter and excursion carriers would be cancelled if the Companies failed to file annual reports within 30 days. The Commission also

² Airport Transporter Association, LLC holds authority to operate as a charter and excursion carrier under certificate CH064929. Four Star Enterprises LLC holds authority to operate as a charter and excursion carrier under certificate CH067392. Northwest Shuttle LLC holds authority to operate as a charter and excursion carrier under certificate CH067471. Peninsula Brew Tours, LLC holds authority to operate as a charter and excursion carrier under certificate CH064817. Vicky Sandhu holds authority to operate as a charter and excursion carrier under certificate CH067797.

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notified the Companies that they could request a hearing to contest cancellation of their certificates.

- 9 (4) The Companies have not filed annual reports, which were due May 1, 2018.
- 10 (5) The Companies did not request a hearing.
- Under WAC 480-30-071(2)(d), the Commission may cancel a charter and excursion carrier's certificate for failure to file its annual report.
- 12 (7) Under WAC 480-30-171(2), the Commission may cancel a charter and excursion carrier's certificate for cause, including failure to file an annual report.
- 13 (8) The Companies' failure to file their 2017 annual reports constitutes cause to cancel their charter and excursion carrier certificates.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 14 (1) The certificates held by Airport Transporter Association, LLC, Four Star Enterprises LLC, Northwest Shuttle LLC, Peninsula Brew Tours, LLC, and Vicky Sandhu are cancelled effective on the date this Order is served.
- 15 (2) Airport Transporter Association, LLC, Four Star Enterprises LLC, Northwest Shuttle LLC, Peninsula Brew Tours, LLC, and Vicky Sandhu are directed to **cease** all operations associated with their certificates.
- The Commission has delegated authority to the Secretary, or to the Secretary's delegate, to enter this Order under RCW 80.01.030, WAC 480-07-905(1).

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective January 4, 2019.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK L. JOHNSON
Executive Director and Secretary

NOTICE TO PARTIES: This is an order delegated to the Executive Secretary for decision. As authorized in WAC 480-07-904(3), you must file any request for

Commission review of this order no later than 14 days after the date the decision is posted on the Commission's website.