

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Prescription of)	APPLICATION NO. TR-137
Reasonable Rates and Charges for Motor)	
Carriers Passengers and Property for Hire)	GRANTED
Subject to the Provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat.)	
(Reissue 1996), Chapter 75, Articles 1 and 3.)	ENTERED: October 13, 2004

BY THE COMMISSION:

OPINION AND FINDINGS

On July 22, 2004, Action Taxi & Limo Co., Inc., Sioux City, Iowa, filed an application for authority to amend its South Sioux City, NE taxi rates as follows:

<u>Current Rates</u>	<u>Proposed Rates</u>
I. Meter Rates	I. Meter Rates
A. 1 st 1/9 mile \$2.00	A. 1 st 1/10 mile \$1.90
B. Ea. Add. 1/9 mile20	B. Ea. Add. 1/10 mile20
II. Minimum Charge:	II. Minimum Charge:
A. Veterans Bridge to 21 st Street \$4.00	A. Veterans Bridge to 21 st Street \$ 4.00
2. 21 st Street to the 229 By-pass \$6.00	B. 21 st Street to the 229 By-pass \$ 6.00
3. 229 By-pass to Dakota City \$10.00	C. 229 By-pass to Dakota City \$10.00
III. Waiting Time: No Change.	

In addition, Action Taxi also requests a fuel surcharge to be applied to their rate along the following schedule:

<u>Price/Gallon</u>	<u>Surcharge</u>
Under \$1.60	zero
\$1.60-1.69	\$0.15
\$1.70-1.79	\$0.20
\$1.80-1.89	\$0.25
\$1.90-1.99	\$0.30
\$2.00-2.09	\$0.35

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The fuel surcharge would follow the same format for prices above \$2.09 per gallon, with the surcharge increasing \$0.05 for every \$0.10 increase in the cost of gasoline.

Notice of the application was published in The Daily Record, Omaha, Nebraska, on August 18, 2004, pursuant to the Commission's rules. Notice of the application was also published in the Dakota County Star newspaper on August 26, 2004. The application was not protested.

Applicant is a certificated common carrier which holds Certificate B-1382. The certificate authorizes the transportation of passengers and their baggage by taxicab between points in Dakota County over irregular routes. The last rate change approval for the South Sioux City area was granted in November of 2001.

According to the Applicant, the increase is necessary due to increases in the overall expense structure of the business. The Applicant states that gasoline costs have increased 47% during the past two and one-half years. The costs of parts and repairs have increased about 20 percent in the past year. Insurance costs have increased from \$6,000 to \$7,000 per vehicle per year. Other costs such as rent and supplies have also increased.

The Applicant also states that he has placed several newer cabs in the fleet in order to improve service. These additions, while necessary to improve service to the community, have also contributed to the decreased profitability position of the company.

The meter rates as proposed for South Sioux City represent a seven percent increase in current rates for a three-mile trip, exclusive of the gasoline surcharge. For a ten-mile trip, the increase is 9.6 percent exclusive of the surcharge. Including the surcharge causes the increases to be twelve percent and eleven percent for each trip.

The meter rates proposed for use in South Sioux City are the same as those used in Sioux City, Iowa. The proposed rates are comparable to the rates authorized for use in Lincoln and Omaha.

The Commission finds that the proposed rates for use by the Applicant are reasonable for the community and justified by the time since the last rate increase and by the increases in the costs of its operation incurred.

Upon consideration of the application and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that the application should be granted.

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ORDER

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that Action Taxi & Limo Co., Inc., Sioux City, Iowa, be, and it is hereby, authorized to amend its South Sioux City, NE. taxi rates as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Rate</u>
I. Meter Rates	
A. 1 st 1/10 mile.	\$ 1.90
B. Ea. Add. 1/10 mile	.20
II. Minimum Charge:	
A. Veterans Bridge to 21 st Street	\$ 4.00
B. 21 st Street to the 229 By-pass	\$ 6.00
C. 229 By-pass to Dakota City	\$10.00

III. Waiting Time: No Change.

IV. Fuel Surcharge




<u>Price/Gallon</u>	<u>Surcharge</u>
Under \$1.60	zero
\$1.60-1.69	\$0.15
\$1.70-1.79	\$0.20
\$1.80-1.89	\$0.25
\$1.90-1.99	\$0.30
\$2.00-2.09	\$0.35

The fuel surcharge is to follow the same format for prices above \$2.09 per gallon, with the surcharge increasing \$0.05 for every \$0.10 increase in the cost of gasoline.

MADE AND ENTERED in Lincoln, Nebraska, this 13th day of October, 2004.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:



Vice Chairman

ATTEST:


Executive Director//s// Rod Johnson
//s// Frank E. Landis

SECRETARY'S RECORD, NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
