

STATE OF MICHIGAN
BEFORE THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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In the matter of the proposed increased)	
rates, fares, and charges filed by)	Case No. T-1510
CHAMPION'S AUTO FERRY, INC.)	
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At the October 3, 2002 meeting of the Michigan Public Service Commission in Lansing,
Michigan.

PRESENT: Hon. Laura Chappelle, Chairman
 Hon. David A. Svanda, Commissioner
 Hon. Robert B. Nelson, Commissioner

SUSPENSION AND NOTICE OF HEARING

On October 1, 2002, Champion's Auto Ferry, Inc., (Champion) filed Tariff M.P.S.C. No. 30, which has an effective date of November 1, 2002 covering ferry service that Champion provides between Harsens Island and Algonac, Michigan. As provided in the tariff, Champion proposes to raise the rates for tourists and commercial trucking by \$1.00 per round trip, which will yield increased revenue of approximately \$147,000 annually, an increase of 9.0%. The Commission Staff's review is underway.

Champion's submission raises concerns that the proposed rates may not be just and reasonable. Pursuant to MCL 460.201, the Commission finds that the effective date of the tariff should be suspended for a period of 30 days to permit the Commission to investigate whether the proposed rate increase is justified and to conduct a hearing on the matter.

The Commission FINDS that:

a. Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1921 PA 246, as amended, MCL 460.201 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.51 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as amended, 1992 AACCS, R 460.17101 et seq.

b. The effective date of the proposed increase in rates, fares, and charges should be suspended so that the Commission may have an opportunity to investigate whether Tariff M.P.S.C. No. 30 should be permitted to take effect.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

A. The November 1, 2002 effective date of Tariff M.P.S.C. No. 30, filed by Champion's Auto Ferry, Inc., on October 1, 2002, shall be suspended until December 1, 2002, unless otherwise ordered by the Commission.

B. The rates, fares, charges, and rules presently in effect pursuant to Tariff M.P.S.C. No. 29, previously issued by Champion's Auto Ferry, Inc., shall remain in effect until further order of the Commission.

C. A prehearing conference shall be held concerning the proposed rates, fares, charges, and rules on October 21, 2002 at 9:00 a.m., at the offices of the Commission, 6545 Mercantile Way, Lansing, Michigan.

D. Notice of the hearing shall be given to Champion's Auto Ferry, Inc., and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Harsens Island and Algonac, Michigan.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

/s/ Laura Chappelle
Chairman

(S E A L)

/s/ David A. Svanda
Commissioner

/s/ Robert B. Nelson
Commissioner

By its action of October 3, 2002.

/s/ Dorothy Wideman
Its Executive Secretary

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chairman

Commissioner

Commissioner

By its action of October 3, 2002.

Its Executive Secretary

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Suggested Minute:

“Adopt and issue order dated October 3, 2002 suspending the effective date of the rate increase requested by Champion’s Auto Ferry, Inc., until December 1, 2002 and setting a hearing, as set forth in the order.”