

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

DOCKET NO. 03A-073CP-WAIVER

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF SUNFLOWER TOUR & LIMO SERVICE,
FOR AN ORDER OF THE COMMISSION AUTHORIZING A WAIVER OF RULE 2.3
(DISCRETIONARY VEHICLE) OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING
MOTOR VEHICLE CARRIERS EXEMPT FROM REGULATION AS PUBLIC UTILITIES
AND ESTABLISHING CIVIL PENALTIES; 4 CCR-723-33.

COMMISSION ORDER GRANTING WAIVER

Mailed Date: March 28, 2003
Adopted Date: March 26, 2003

I. BY THE COMMISSION:

A. Statement, Findings and Conclusions

1. By application filed February 26, 2003, Sunflower Tour & Limo Service, requested a waiver of Rule 2.3 (Discretionary vehicle), *4 Code of Colorado Regulations* (CCR) 723-33, as it pertains to a 2002 Ford E-250 conversion van it proposes to qualify and use as a luxury limousine under Article 16 of Title 40 *Colorado Revised Statutes* (C.R.S.).

2. The Commission noticed this application to all interested persons, firms, and corporations pursuant to § 40-6-108(2), C.R.S., on March 10, 2003. The Commission set this matter for hearing on April 18, 2003.

3. No petition to intervene or otherwise participate in this proceeding has been filed. This proceeding is therefore noncontested. Under Rules 24 and 59(g), *Rules of Practice and Procedure*, 4 CCR 723-1, this matter may be determined without a hearing.

4. Rule 10, 4 CCR 723-33, allows the Commission to grant a waiver from Rule 2.3, 4 CCR 723-33, to the extent authorized by applicable law, for good cause, and if it finds compliance to be impossible, impractical or unreasonable.

5. A luxury limousine is defined in Section §40-16-101(3)(a) C.R.S. as “a chauffer-driven, luxury motor vehicle with a rear seating capacity of three or more, for hire on a chartered basis to transport passengers in luxury limousine service.” A vehicle may qualify for inclusion as a luxury limousine in one of five different categories. The category relevant to the vehicle named in this waiver request is the executive van. Section §40-16-101 (3)(a)(IV)(C) C.R.S., defines an executive van as “a van with a rear seating capacity of seven or more that may be of manufacturer’s specifications, but may have been altered from the manufacturer’s original specifications, and that meets applicable standards of the federal department of transportation.” The Ford van for which Sunflower Tour & Limo Service requested this waiver does not have a rear seating capacity of seven and therefore does not qualify for inclusion as a luxury limousine in the executive van category.

6. Sunflower Tour & Limo Service states in its waiver application “We moved from Virginia to Colorado in 2002, in Virginia the vehicle would be acceptable. When we moved here, we thought it would be a good vehicle for a limousine business. We bought the vehicle but did not know about the Colorado rules. We spent \$40, 600 for the van. Not being able to use the vehicle in our business will be a hardship for us.”

7. Section §40-16-101(3)(a)(IV)(E), C.R.S., allows the Commission to determine what qualifies as a “discretionary vehicle”. Rule 2.3, 4 CCR 723-33 states “A vehicle may be qualified as a discretionary vehicle if the vehicle would have qualified as a luxury vehicle at the time the vehicle was new and if the vehicle is in exceptional physical condition at the time of

registration.” The vehicle named in this waiver application would not have qualified as a luxury limousine under any of the definitions contained in §40-16-101(3)(a)(IV)(A)(B)(C) or (D), C.R.S., at the time it was new. Therefore, Sunflower Tour & Limo Service must be granted a waiver of Rule 2.3, 4 CCR 723-33 to allow the vehicle named in the application to be considered for registration as a luxury limousine.

8. The Commission finds that the information submitted with this application warrants the granting of a waiver of Rule 2.3, 4 CCR 723-33.

9. However, Sunflower Tour & Limo Service is advised that the granting of the waiver of Rule 2.3, 4 CCR 723-33 for the vehicle named in this application does not ensure that this vehicle will pass the inspection by staff of the Commission as required by Rule 8.1, 4 CCR 723-33.

II. ORDER

A. The Commission Orders That:

1. Sunflower Tour & Limo Service, is granted a waiver of Rule 2.3, 4 *Code of Colorado Regulations* 723-33; *Rules, Regulations, and Civil Penalties Governing Motor Vehicle Carriers Exempt From Regulation as Public Utilities*.

2. The hearing set for April 18, 2003, is vacated.

3. The 20-day time period provided by § 40-6-114(1), C.R.S., to file an application for rehearing, reargument, or reconsideration shall begin on the first day after the Commission mails this Order.

4. This Order is effective on its Mailed Date.

**B. ADOPTED IN THE COMMISSIONERS' WEEKLY MEETING
March 26, 2003.**

(S E A L)



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

GREGORY E. SOPKIN

JIM DYER

Commissioners

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Bruce N. Smith
Director

COMMISSIONER POLLY PAGE ABSENT.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

DOCKET NO. 03A-073CP-WAIVER
Decision No. C03-0304
(Page 1 of 1 Page)

I, Bruce N. Smith, Director of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of Colorado, certify that I served a true and correct copy of the above Commission Decision -- entered in the above numbered matter of record -- upon each of the persons whose names and addresses appear below, by mailing the same in sealed envelopes properly addressed, with sufficient postage prepaid to carry the same to its destination to the following:

APPLICANT:

Sunflower Tour & Limo Service
10700 East Dartmouth Avenue. No. D-202
Aurora, CO 80014

ROUTE:

6, 60, and all other PUC staff including staff that may be listed as parties, received this decision electronically.

SEAL



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce N. Smith".

BRUCE N. SMITH
Director

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(Page 1 of 1 Page)

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BRUCE N. SMITH
Director