



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

DIVISION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS

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February 18, 2016

Memo To: Luly Massaro, Commission Clerk
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission

From : John Bell, ^{JB}Assistant Chief Accountant
Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities and Carriers

Subject : Docket No. 4601 – Blackstone Valley Tourism Council’s Tour Rates

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2016 FEB 18 AM 11:23
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

By letter dated February 9, 2016, the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council filed a request for a change in its public tour rates. The proposed change includes an increase in the adult rate from \$10.00 to \$12.00 and an increase in the senior/child rate from \$8.00 to \$10.00.

The Tourism Council is a non-profit agency and the cruises it provides are tourist related and purely discretionary. The applicant explains in its filing that it hasn’t requested a rate change in 10 years and since that time there’s been a reduction in capacity from 49 passengers to 40 due to weight change requirements of the Coast Guard. In addition, there have been labor, maintenance and other cost increases over this time.

Due to the nature of the services provided and the nominal amount of the proposed fare change, the Division does not believe a hearing on this matter is necessary. On their face, the proposed rates appear reasonable and the Division recommends approval.

cc: Natalie Carter, Director of Operations