September 24, 2021

Ms. Heather Arias

Chief, Transportation and Toxics Division

California Air Resources Board

1001 I Street

Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to Commercial Harbor Craft (CHC) Regulations

Dear Ms. Arias:

This letter is in response to your staff’s request for clarification regarding the process for a vessel common carrier (VCC), subject to the California Air Resources Board’s (CARB) Proposed Amendments to the Commercial Harbor Craft (CHC) Regulations, to request a modification of its fares from the California Public Utilities Commission (Commission or CPUC).

The Commission governs VCC fares through Public Utilities Code §§ 451 et sec., Rule 3.2 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, and Commission General Order 117A (<https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/regulatory-services/licensing/transportation-licensing-and-analysis-branch/passenger-stage-corporation-and-vessel-common-carrier>).

If a VCC applies to the Commission to obtain authorization to modify its fares in response to CARB’s CHC Regulations, the application would go through the Commission’s formal application process. In this process, applications are assigned to a CPUC Commissioner and an Administrative Law Judge to facilitate the development of the public record and bring a Proposed Decision to the Commission for a vote. The Commission has the discretion to approve, deny or modify any application. It is also important to note that Commission proceedings may take up to twelve months or longer before a Commission Decision is issued.

I appreciate your staff’s active engagement with us, and we look forward to continuing to work with you throughout the development of the proposed amendments.

Thank you,

/s/

Douglas Ito

Director, Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division

cc: Jeff Kasmar, Program Manager, Transportation Licensing and Analysis