
From: Meghan de Bruijn <meghan@pcgraphixsolutions.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:36 AM
To: PUC
Cc: Mayor; DOD Covid Exemption
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Young Brothers Horse Transport Tarif Violation

Importance: High

To Whom It May Concern at the Public Utilities Commission,

I have been trying to transport my horse from Kauai to Oahu for the past 12 weeks as we are getting transferred back to the Mainland for work. We started the process in the beginning of March. Young Brothers advised me that due to the COVID-19 stay at home order issued by Governor Ige, they were not allowed to transport any non-essential cargo until that stay at home order was lifted. I found that to be reasonable. However, we now HAVE to move as our home has been rented here on Kauai. So I read all the governor's proclamations and emailed the covidexemptions@hawaii.gov email and was told that shipping had zero restrictions in the proclamations. I called Young Brothers again to book shipping and they insisted that they could not ship until the governor lifted the restrictions unless I shipped in a 20' cattle container.

Becoming increasingly more desperate to get my horse to Oahu to be able to catch a flight to L.A. I was able to find a 20' container that was set up to ship 2 horses. I contacted Young Brothers again and they said that I could use that, but needed to load the horse off the dock property then bring the container back to the dock loaded with the horse. These are some of the changes Young Brothers proposed in their case in February (Docket# 2019-0017) which was tabled with no approved changes until June of 2020. I asked them why I needed to do that and they said to minimize contact with the dock workers. I can not currently find anyone with a flatbed trailer that can pick up the container, unload it off-site then reload it and bring it back to the dock. And honestly, if I could, that process would actually INCREASE contact with the dock workers by 3x. The trucking company would have to sign the container out, the trucking company would have to sign the container back in and I would have to process the paperwork for the horse. If I was able to load at the dock, they would only have to deal with me when I dropped the horse off.

As I have no choice but to continue to find help in accommodating these new regulations they have put on us, my rates have increased exponentially. When I shipped my horse to Kauai from Oahu when we moved here, I paid \$1,177. Currently, my cost is totaling to be \$2,965 (a 94% increase) because not only do I need to find a trucker to take the container off site at Lihue, but I also need to find one that can do the same in Honolulu.

I am at a total loss and really need some help to understand why this is happening when the request to make these changes by Young Brothers back in February was suspended. It will cost me more to send my horse to Oahu then it will to send him on a flight to Los Angeles. I truly hope that if I do end up paying this out of desperation, I do not set a precedence for Young Brothers to make a case that because I was willing to do this under duress, they will be able to pass these rate increases along to the agriculture and equestrian culture across the islands.

Please do get back to me so I can sort this all out. I have my horse booked on the barge on May 26th from Nawiliwili to Oahu.

Mahalo for your consideration!

Meghan de Bruijn
435-640-2883

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