



STATE OF ALABAMA
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 304260
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

TWINKLE ANDRESS CAVANAUGH, PRESIDENT

JOHN A. GARNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JEREMY H. ODEN, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

CHRIS "CHIP" BEEKER, JR., ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

**Re: Request for Limited Exemption from Rule TNC-7
for Lyft, Inc.,**

DOCKET 32780

PERMIT TNC-2

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

On October 23, 2019, Lyft, Inc. ("Lyft"), a permitted transportation network company ("TNC"), submitted a request for a limited exemption from the Rule TNC-7 requirement that vehicle inspection forms include verification that an inspection was completed by a certified mechanic.¹ In this filing, Lyft indicated that, prior to November 1, 2019, the vehicle inspection form that it provided to its drivers did not include a field to allow the inspecting mechanic to indicate his or her required certification credentials. Because of the lack of this field on the provided form, many of the completed inspection forms submitted to Lyft by its drivers did not include the required certification information.

Upon learning of the above-stated deficiency on the vehicle inspection form, Lyft revised its inspection form to add the necessary field regarding the mechanic's certification. The revised form enables compliance with Rule TNC-7 for vehicle inspections conducted after November 1, 2019; however, drivers with inspections completed prior to November 1, 2019 may have noncompliant inspection forms. Regarding those drivers with noncompliant inspection forms, Lyft asserts that requiring it to deactivate drivers who otherwise have a valid vehicle inspection until a new inspection is performed would harm both drivers who rely on Lyft for income and riders who would see increased

¹ Rule TNC-7 requires that the vehicle inspection be conducted or supervised by an American Advanced Technicians Institute ("AATI") certified mechanic or a National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence ("ASE") certified mechanic.

service times and fare prices due to decline in available rides. In addition to the financial impacts of requiring new inspections, Lyft points out that, while its inspection form was deficient regarding the mechanic's certification, the form did include all the other safety checks required by Rule TNC-7.

For the above-stated reasons, Lyft requests a limited exemption which would allow its drivers to continue to provide TNC rides for Lyft passengers without proof of the inspector's certification as long as the vehicle inspection form meets all of the other requirements of Rule TNC-7. The requested exemption is limited because it only applies to drivers with vehicles inspected prior to November 1, 2019. For vehicle inspections on or after November 1, 2019, the exemption would not apply and the inspection shall comply with all the requirements of Rule TNC-7. Vehicle inspections on or after November 1, 2019 would use the revised inspection form, which meets all regulatory requirements.

Rule TNC-7 promotes safety by ensuring that the vehicles used to provide TNC services pass a 20-point safety inspection conducted or supervised by a certified mechanic. The 20-point inspection includes a check of the vehicle's brakes, lights, mirrors, safety belts, air bags, tires, and several other items related to safety. Rule TNC-7 also requires that TNCs maintain documentation of the inspection and who performed and/or supervised the inspection.

Commission Staff recognizes that the Commission's TNC Rules are relatively new² and may include different vehicle inspection requirements from other jurisdictions. Although not ideal, it is understandable that TNCs that operate in multiple jurisdictions, like Lyft, may mistakenly fail to meet a form requirement, like the mechanic's certification, that is unique to the Alabama Commission. To mitigate this mistake, after learning of the problem with the form, Lyft quickly made the changes to correct the issue and bring the vehicle inspection form into compliance. Given this timely correction and because under Lyft's exemption request, all of its drivers, even those with inspections completed prior to November 1, 2019, would be providing TNC service in vehicles that satisfied the 20-point inspection established in Rule TNC-7, Commission Staff recommended approval of Lyft's request for a limited exemption from Rule TNC-7.

² The Commission adopted the TNC Rules on June 8, 2018.

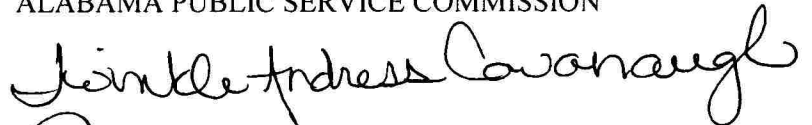
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, that Lyft, Inc. is granted a limited exemption from the requirement of Rule TNC-7 that the vehicle inspection form include information to verify that a certified mechanic completed or supervised the vehicle inspection. This limited exemption only applies to Lyft drivers with vehicle inspections performed prior to November 1, 2019.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the operations herein authorized shall be subject to all the rights, privileges, and immunities as well as all the restrictions, liabilities, and responsibilities that are now or may hereafter be imposed upon TNCs by law or by the rules and regulations of this Commission.

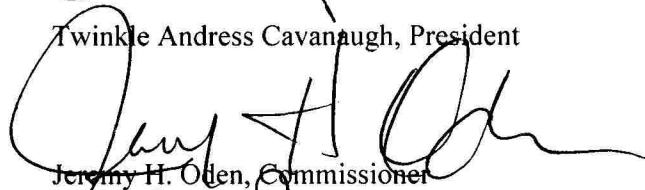
IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that jurisdiction in this cause is retained for whatever order or orders deemed appropriate by the Commission.

DONE at Montgomery, Alabama this 19th day of November, 2019.

ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Twinkle Andress Cavanaugh, President

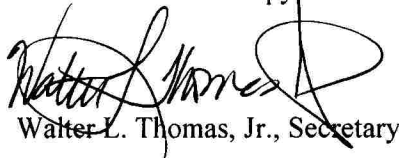


Jeremy H. Oden, Commissioner



Chris "Chip" Beeker, Jr., Commissioner

ATTEST: A True Copy



Walter L. Thomas, Jr., Secretary