[LTFRB CONSOLIDATED DECISION, June 16, 2011]

PETITION FOR TAXI FARE INCREASE IN THE CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

JOCELYN PANAYO represented by Melanio Panayo LTFRB Case No. 2005-BENG-CAR-371

Case No.

2002-BC-388; 2002-BC-573

JOCELYN MARRERO represented by Rommel Marrero Sr. LTFRB Case No. 2004-BAG-CAR-428

RAQUEL BUSTAMANTE LTFRB Case No. 2002-BC-203; 2002-BC-204

CRISPINA MERLINA GRAJO represented by Venusto D. Dacpano LTFRB Case No. 98-BC-204

EMMANUEL G. CARANTES LTFRB Case No. 2004-BAG-CAR-404

Petitioners,

CONNIE TONGAWAN LTFRB Case No. 2003-CAR-1133

REYNALDO S. GAYO LTFRB Case No. 2001-01-3178

SHIRLEY EVANGELISTA LTFRB Case No. 99-01-2402 For: petition for Taxi Fare Increase in the Cordillera

Administrative Region

GEORGE BAY-ED LTFRB Case No. 2001-01-609

ELPIDIOLITILIT LTFRB Case No. 97-01-1396 Intervenors,

JANE B. MABALOT LTFRB Case No. 98-BC-630 **Oppositor.**

CONSOLIDATED DECISION

Before the Board is a petition for a fare increase of public utility taxi service in the Cordillera Administrative Service filed by the above-petitioners on January 7,2011, they are asking for an increase of fare as follows:

CURRENT RATE	PROPOSED RATE	INCREASE
Flag Down - P25.00 for the 1 st 400 meters	45.00 for the 1 st 400 meters	Php15.00
Additional - 1.50/succeeding <u>200</u> meters	2.00/succeeding <u>150</u> meters	Php.50 & less 50m
Waiting time - 1.50/1 min. and 30 sec.	2.00/1 min. and 30 sec.	Php.50

In their petition, Petitioners alleged that the last increase of taxi fare in the Cordillera Administrative Region was in 2004 and that at present, the price of gasoline and diesel has increased abnormally not to mention the increase of prices of spare parts, maintenance and other operational costs. Petitioners further argued that the drastic increase in fuel prices has greatly reduced the income being earned by the operators and drivers of taxi services in the Cordillera which is barely enough to make ends meet for their families. Further they alleged that the price of fuel in the Cordillera is costlier and fuel consumption is higher considering the terrain in the region thus warranting an increase. They presented some statistical data allegedly supporting their claims and prayed that an immediate relief be granted to them. Accordingly, an urgent relief is necessary for them to be able to continue quality transport service to the public in the midst of the unabated increase in fuel prices.

Hearing for the petition for taxi fare increase was set on February 7, 2011 after due