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SERVICE DATE - FEBRUARY 1, 2002

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

STB Docket No. MC-F-20988 TA

HOLLAND AMERICA LINE - WESTOURS, INC.

— CONTROL —

WESTOURS MOTOR COACHES, INC., EVERGREEN TRAILS, INC.,  
WESTMARK HOTELS OF CANADA LTD., AND HORIZON COACH LINES LTD.

Decided: January 31, 2002

On January 25, 2002, Holland America Line - Westours, Inc. (HAL), a noncarrier holding company, which controls 3 motor passenger carrier subsidiaries, Westours Motor Coaches, Inc.; Evergreen Trails, Inc.; and Westmark Hotels of Canada Ltd. (Westmark)<sup>1</sup> applied for interim approval under 49 U.S.C. 14303(i) and the Board's regulations at 49 CFR 1182.7 to permit it to acquire control, through its Westmark subsidiary, of another Federal regulated passenger carrier, Horizon Coach Lines Ltd. (Horizon). HAL seeks interim approval pending a decision on its concurrently filed application for permanent approval of the transaction.

This transaction arises from HAL's acquisition, through its Westmark subsidiary, of all of the stock of Horizon, a Canadian domiciled carrier, effective on or about February 1, 2002. While Horizon holds a certificate issued by the former Interstate Commerce Commission and now administered by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration in Docket No. MC-144339, HAL indicates that its acquisition of Horizon is focused on Canadian business and regulatory issues. According to HAL, the business aspects of the transaction require the parties to meet the February 1 target date. This date, in part, reflects the highly seasonal nature of the pleasure tour industry in the Pacific Northwest, which becomes busy in late spring. HAL believes that it is necessary to acquire Horizon now to make the needed changes to Horizon in anticipation of this busy tour season.

Under 49 U.S.C. 14303(i), we find that HAL has demonstrated that failure to grant interim approval of the proposed finance transaction may result in destruction of or injury to its properties or substantially interfere with their future usefulness in providing adequate and continuous service to the public. This action will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources.

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<sup>1</sup> HAL's control of the 3 carriers was approved by the Board in Holland America Line - Westours, Inc. — Control — Westmark Hotels of Canada Ltd., STB Docket No. MC-F-20985 (STB served Oct. 10, 2001).

It is ordered:

1. HAL is authorized to acquire control, through its Westmark subsidiary, of Horizon for a period of 180 days. HAL's application will be considered in a separate decision.

2. This decision is effective on its service date.

3. A copy of this decision will be served on: (1) U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 400 7th Street, S.W., Room 8214, Washington, DC 20590; (2) the U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, 10th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20530; and (3) the U.S. Department of Transportation, Office of the General Counsel, 400 7th Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20590.

By the Board, Chairman Morgan and Vice Chairman Burkes.

Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary