



STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

(360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

June 22, 2015

Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary
Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. City/Suddath Relocation Systems, LLC*

Commission Staff's Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties TV-150890

Dear Mr. King:

On May 27, 2015, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TV-150890 against City/Suddath Relocation Systems, LLC for 10 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-15-480), which requires household goods carrier companies to furnish annual reports to the commission no later than May 1 each year.

On June 9, 2015, City/Suddath Relocation Systems, LLC wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties. In its mitigation request, City/Suddath Relocation Systems, LLC disputes the violation occurred. The company states, "The report was filed timely without intent of omission of any item. Information required is informational only. Lack of response to the email dated May 5, 2015 from Katie Hancock was merely an oversight and was not intended as avoidance to respond. In prior years the information requested was not required and "n/a" was accepted". The company requests the penalty be omitted.

It is the company's responsibility to ensure that the regulatory fee is paid and the annual report is filed by the May 1 deadline. On February 27, 2015, Annual Report packets were mailed to all regulated household goods companies. The instructions for annual report completion page of the annual report informed the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form, pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 1, 2015, to avoid enforcement action.

¹See Attachment A for email communication related to 2013 Annual Report for City/Suddath

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On May 1, 2015, City/Suddath Relocation Systems, LLC filed an incomplete 2014 annual report and paid the required regulatory fees. On June 9, 2015, the company filed the required information and the report was considered complete. The company has been active since 2011. No prior violations of WAC 480-15-480 are on commission record.

The household goods moves information omitted from Schedule 1 of the 2014 report, which resulted in the report being incomplete, was also omitted from the 2013 report. However, commission staff contacted the company regarding the 2013 report requiring the information be submitted on May 1, 2014 via email. The company complied on May 1, 2014 via email¹. Staff does not support the company's request for the penalty to be waived. Staff supports the request for mitigation as this is City/Suddath's first delinquent filing despite the company's knowledge of the household goods move information being required. Staff recommends a reduced penalty of \$25 per day for a total penalty assessment of \$250.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Amy Andrews, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1157, or aandrews@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Sondra Walsh, Director
Administrative Services

ATTACHMENT A

Andrews, Amy (UTC)

From: Mark Boomgaarden <Mark.Boomgaarden@suddath.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2014 1:55 PM
To: Andrews, Amy (UTC)
Subject: RE: Incomplete Annual Report Notification for City/Suddath Relocation Systems LLC

Amy:

Attached is the information you requested to complete the report.

Mileage information for Schedule 1 Total miles 273788 Intrastate 75788 Interstate 198,000

Total 256 total HHGD moves 74 intrastate

Mark Boomgaarden

Suddath Relocation Systems

952 828 7963 direct
952 486 4354 fax
Mark.Boomgaarden@suddath.com

7100 Washington Ave So., Eden Prairie, MN 55344
www.suddath.com

From: Andrews, Amy (UTC) [mailto:aandrews@utc.wa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2014 2:52 PM
To: Mark Boomgaarden
Cc: Andrews, Amy (UTC)
Subject: Incomplete Annual Report Notification for City/Suddath Relocation Systems LLC

Dear Regulated Company,

On February 28, 2014 the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) mailed you an Annual Report. The report and fees are due by May 1, 2014.

A review of your annual report submitted on April 29, 2014 indicates it is incomplete.

- **Schedule 1 – Household Goods Moves not provided**
- **Schedule 1 – Mileage information not provided**

Commission staff may recommend enforcement action, which includes penalties of up to \$100 per day, against any company that does not file a completed annual report. In order to avoid enforcement action, the commission must receive your completed report no later than May 1, 2014.

If you have any questions about your annual report please call me at (360) 664-1157 or e-mail at aandrews@utc.wa.gov.

Amy Andrews

Fiscal Analyst
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