



STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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

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June 15, 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. Rocket Transportation LLC*

Commission Staff's Response to Request for Hearing TC-150980

Dear Mr. King:

On May 22, 2015, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TC-150980 against Rocket Transportation LLC for 10 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-30-071), which requires auto transportation companies to furnish annual reports to the commission no later than May 1 each year.

On June 2, 2015, Rocket Transportation LLC wrote the commission requesting a hearing disputing the violation occurred. In its hearing request, the company states, "Balance Sheet was returned May 10th, 2015. Fuel amounts are not available just as they were not available last year. We will work on this with our fuel provider".

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 auto transportation 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.

On April 29, 2015, Rocket Transportation LLC filed an incomplete 2014 annual report and paid the regulatory fees owed. Commission staff contacted the company via email on April 30, 2015 regarding the deficient information including mileage data on Schedule 1, blank Balance Sheet on Schedule 4, and the trip and fuel usage statistics on Schedule 5. Rocket Transportation LLC responded via email the same day providing the mileage data and noting the other information was being gathered.

On May 11, 2015, Rocket Transportation filed an updated annual report to include the Balance Sheet. On May 27, 2015, the company emailed commission staff providing an estimate for the trip data and again stating the fuel usage statistics were unavailable. The company states the fuel usage data was unavailable for the 2013 reporting year due to the prior fuel provider company going out of business. The commission accepted the 2013 report as Rocket Transportation was unable to obtain statistics from a company which ceased doing business. However, Rocket Transportation LLC was aware of the requirement to provide fuel statistics and at minimum should have statistics available from the time the previous fuel provider went out of business in February 2014 through December 31, 2014.

Rocket Transportation LLC (which formerly operated under the name Rocket Enterprises LLC) previously missed the deadline for filing its annual report and paying its regulatory fees for the 2013 reporting year. As the company acknowledges a complete 2014 annual report was not provided by the May 1 deadline, staff does not support the company's request for hearing. Due to the prior violations of WAC 480-30-071 and knowledge of the required trip and fuel usage statistics for the 2014 reporting year, staff does not support any mitigation of the penalty.

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