



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 29, 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. Puget Express, LLC*

Commission Staff's Response to Request for Hearing TE-151041

Dear Mr. King:

On June 10, 2015, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TE-151041 against Puget Express, LLC for 10 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-30-071), which requires charter and excursion carriers to furnish annual reports to the commission no later than May 1 each year.

On June 18, 2015, Puget Express, LLC wrote the commission requesting a hearing disputing the violation occurred. In its hearing request, the company states, "I do believe I have filed my annual report with UTC and paid the fee as well and if the record don't show, it must have gotten lost in the mail. I really wish there's a fax # to file with UTC".

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 charter and excursion carriers. 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 June 16, 2015 commission staff provided an electronic copy of the 2014 annual report form via email per the company's request. As of June 26, 2015, Puget Express, LLC has not filed an annual report. The regulatory fees and late payment penalty were paid on January 23, 2015.

Puget Express, LLC was previously delinquent in filing its annual report and paying regulatory fees for the 2012 reporting year. Mitigation was received for the penalty assessment for the 2012 reporting year. Due to the prior violation of WAC 480-30-071 and the company not providing any compelling information, staff does not support any mitigation of the penalty.

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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