



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 • www.utc.wa.gov

April 4, 2014

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS
ON PROPOSED RULES
(By Monday, May 5, 2014)**
and
**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION HEARING
(Set for Thursday, May 15, 2014, at 1:30 p.m.)**

RE: Rulemaking to consider amending and adopting rules in WAC 480-123, universal service, to implement legislation establishing a state universal communications service program; Docket UT-131239

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

This letter informs you of the progress made in this rulemaking docket concerning the possible adoption of proposed revisions to WAC 480-123, Universal Service, to implement the provisions of Second Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (2E2SHB 1971), enacted in the 2013 Second Special Legislative Session. Section 204 of the bill requires the commission to establish rules to implement a state universal communications service program. This letter also provides notice of an opportunity to file written comments on the proposed rule amendments and to participate in the formal rule adoption hearing scheduled for 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2014.

On April 2, 2014, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102) with the Office of the Code Reviser. The proposed rules would implement conditions for Commission oversight of the state universal communications program including, but not limited to, criteria for determining eligibility and information requirements, determining funding levels, and operation of an Advisory Board. The Commission has reviewed comments received from stakeholders received to date in this docket and has prepared proposed rules for review and comment by interested persons. The proposed rules are available for inspection on the Commission's web page at www.utc.wa.gov/131239. If you are unable to access the Commission's web page and would like a copy of the proposed rules mailed

to you, please contact the Commission's Records Center at (360) 664-1234. The CR-102 filing initiates the final part of the rulemaking process, which includes a written comment period, a public adoption hearing, and a decision by the Commission.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Commission gives notice of your opportunity to submit written comments on the proposed rules to the Commission by filing with the Commission Executive Director and Secretary either by electronic transmission as described below, or by physical delivery to 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7250, no later than **5:00 p.m., Monday, May 5, 2014**. The proposed rules, as filed with the Code Reviser, are available for inspection on the Commission's web site at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/131239>.

Electronic copies: The Commission requests that comments be provided in electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate quotations from the comments. You may submit comments via the Commission's Web portal at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing> or by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov. Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (UT-131239)
- The commenting party's name
- The title and date of the comment or comments

An alternative method for submitting comments is mailing or delivering an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center on a flash drive, compact disk (CD), or 3 ½ inch, IBM-formatted, high density disk, in .pdf Adobe Acrobat format or in Word 2010 or later format. Include all of the information requested above. The Commission will post on the Commission's web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/131239>. If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a flash drive or CD, the Commission will always accept a paper document.

ADOPTION HEARING

The Commission gives further notice of your opportunity to attend the public hearing and make oral comments about the proposal for the adoption of the proposed rules at **1:30 p.m., Thursday, May 15, 2014**. This public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W., Olympia, Washington.

OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FUTURE

The Commission will post information about the schedule and other aspects of the rulemaking, including comments, on its website as it becomes available. If you wish to receive further information on this rulemaking you may:

- 1) Call the Commission's Records Center at 360-664-1234.
- 2) E-mail the Commission at records@utc.wa.gov.
- 3) Mail written comments to the address below.

When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket UT-131239 to ensure that you are included on the appropriate service list.

The Commission's mailing address is:

Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Questions? If you have questions about this Notice, about the rulemaking process, or this rulemaking in particular, you may contact Brian Thomas. He may be reached by mail at the address on this Notice, or by e-mail at bthomas@utc.wa.gov or by calling (360) 359-1049.

Sincerely,

STEVEN V. KING
Executive Director and Secretary