

December 18, 2000

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS
(Due January 5, 2000)**

RE: Electric System Reliability Rulemaking
Docket No. UE-991168
New Rule Addition to Chapter 480-100 WAC

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

In September, 1999, the Commission began an investigation of whether to establish a system of monitoring and reporting electric system reliability at electric utilities under Commission jurisdiction. In November, 2000, Commission Staff circulated draft monitoring and reporting rules that interested parties, according to their comments, generally support. Staff has edited the November, 2000, rule draft to incorporate drafting suggestions from stakeholders. A copy of the revised draft is included with this letter.

Open Meeting

On January 11, 2000, at the Commission's regularly scheduled open meeting, Staff will recommend that the Commission authorize filing proposed rules with the Office of the Code Revisor (Form CR102, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking). Interested parties may provide oral comments at the meeting. Filing the rules will not curtail your opportunity to make your views known, but will initiate another process with additional opportunities to comment.

Notice of Opportunity to Submit Written Comments

Prior to the January 11, 2000 open meeting, the Commission would like to provide you with one more opportunity to comment on the proposed rules. These rules are attached as the 3rd Informal Draft Reliability Rules. Detailed instructions on how to provide comments are explained below.

SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT: RCW 19.85.030 requires the Commission to prepare a Small Business Economic Impact Statement (SBEIS) to evaluate the impact that new rules may have on small businesses and to make efforts to mitigate any such impact. The Commission Staff Reliability Rule Team has developed a questionnaire for affected parties to help collect the data needed to prepare an SBEIS. If you have not already completed the questionnaire and would like to, or if your answers are now different because of changes to the rules, please use the attached questionnaire to provide the Commission with the necessary information.

WRITTEN COMMENTS. Written comments are due at the Commission offices no later than **Friday, January 5, 2000**, for both the draft rule and the SBEIS questionnaire. A paper copy with electronic backup is preferred. Please follow the instructions below when providing comments in electronic format. Send your comments (with the docket number identified) to:

WUTC Records Center
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive Southwest
Post Office Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

ELECTRONIC COPIES. The Commission requests, but does not require, that comments be provided in electronic format; to facilitate quotations from the comments, to enhance public access, and to reduce the need for additional paper copies. Please help us by sending an electronic copy with your paper filing on a 3½ inch IBM formatted high-density disk, in .pdf Adobe Acrobat format, reflecting the pagination of your original. Please also send us the text in your choice of .doc (Word 97 or later) or .wpd (Wordperfect 6.0 or later). Please include all of the following information on the label of the diskette:

- * The docket number of this proceeding (UE-991168);
- * The commenting party's name;
- * The title and date of the comment or comments; and
- * The type of software used.

DOCKET UE-991168
December 18, 2000
Page 3

Please use the three-letter extension noted above for all electronic files. You may also send your comments by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@wutc.wa.gov. If you choose this means of submitting comments, please include all of the information requested above for the diskette label. The Commission will post on its web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at <http://www.wutc.wa.gov>.

The Commission will post and regularly update its web site to include information that pertains to this rulemaking. Information will be provided to you individually if you request it. If you wish to receive further information on this rulemaking you may either: (1) submit a written request, (2) call the Commission's record center at (360) 664-1234, or (3) E-mail the Commission at records@wutc.wa.gov. When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket UE-991168. You may also speak with rulemaking staff directly; contact Mark Anderson by telephone at (360) 664-1311 or by e-mail at manderso@wutc.wa.gov.

NOTICE

If you do not wish to comment at this time, but would like to receive future information regarding this rulemaking, please notify the Secretary in a manner referenced above and request to be included on the Docket No. UE-991168 mailing list.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Secretary

Enclosures
3rd Informal Draft Reliability Rule
Small Business Economic Impact Statement Questionnaire