

February 12, 2003

Carole Washburn, Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504

Re: In re Application No. D-079116 of CWA, Inc., d/b/a Central Washington
Airporter, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity;
Docket No. TC-021402

Dear Ms. Washburn:

In response to the Notice dated February 6, 2003, inviting comments on CWA's proposal that the Commission proceed on a paper record, Commission Staff does not object to CWA's proposal. However, Staff suggests that the applicant be advised that support statements must be signed and certified, and that the Commission cannot grant more authority than the applicant can show public support for. Although there were no protests to this application, because there are existing carriers serving at least a portion of the territory that the applicant desires to serve, Staff is concerned that the record contain sufficient evidence to allow the Commission to make proper determinations on the following points:

The need for the service the applicant proposes to provide;
The availability of existing services;
Problems with existing service, or why those currently providing service in the territory already served are not providing service to the satisfaction of the Commission; in other words, the reasons existing services don't or can't meet the need for service.

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Staff suggests that the applicant be advised that any written statements of support should include specific information regarding these points, and should also describe how not receiving the applicant's proposed service will affect the individual or the individual's business/organization.

Very truly yours,

MARY M. TENNYSON
Sr. Assistant Attorney General

MMT:tjj

cc: David Rice
CWA, Inc.
Lawrence Berg, Administrative Law Judge