Service Date: August 10, 2016



STATE OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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August 10, 2016

NOTICE WITHDRAWING PENALTY

RE: Whitecastle Tours, Inc., Commission Staff's Request to Waive Penalty Assessment Docket TE-160733

TO ALL PARTIES:

On June 22, 2016, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) issued and served a Penalty Assessment against Whitecastle Tours, Inc. (Whitecastle or Company) in the amount of \$1,000, alleging violations of WAC 480-30-071 and WAC 480-30-076, which require charter and excursion carrier companies to file annual reports and pay regulatory fees by May 1 each year, or on the first business day thereafter.

On July 8, 2016, Whitecastle responded to the penalty assessment and requested mitigation of the penalty based on the written information provided. The Company explained that it obtained authority from the Commission to provide transportation to a golf tournament in Washington on one occasion, and it has since voluntarily cancelled its charter and excursion carrier certificate.

On July 25, 2016, Commission staff (Staff) filed a response recommending the Commission waive the \$1,000 penalty because Whitecastle's Charter and Excursion Carrier certificate was cancelled on July 13, 2016, in Docket TE-160902 at the Company's request.

The Commission's primary objective in any enforcement action is to ensure compliance with a company's legal obligations; penalties both punish noncompliance and provide an incentive to comply in the future. The assessed penalty would further neither of these goals if the company is no longer operating in Washington. The Commission therefore withdraws the penalty assessed against Whitecastle.

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THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE that the penalty of \$1,000 assessed against Whitecastle Tours, Inc. is withdrawn and Docket TE-160733 is closed.

GREGORY J. KOPTA Director, Administrative Law Division