

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION STAFF
RESPONSE TO BENCH REQUEST

DATE PREPARED: March 8, 2019
DOCKET: TS-180677
REQUESTER: Bench

WITNESS: Mike Dotson
RESPONDER: Mike Dotson
TELEPHONE: (360) 664-1223

BENCH REQUEST NO. 1 TO COMMISSION STAFF:

Commission Staff witness Michael Dotson testified that 230 public comments were filed in this docket; 227 in support of the application and 3 opposed. Please provide all comments filed in this docket compiled as one .pdf document, which will be admitted into the record as an illustrative exhibit pursuant to WAC 480-07-498(1).

RESPONSE:

Please see the attached .pdf file containing the requested public comments.

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BENCH REQUEST NO. 2 TO ALL PARTIES:

- A. Please provide a thorough explanation and any supporting documentation of the analysis leading to your conclusion that the public convenience and necessity require approval of Backcountry Travels LLC's Application.
- i. Please provide the data or information you relied upon to determine that allowing two operators to provide ferry service on Lake Chelan is commercially viable.
 - ii. Please provide the data or information you relied upon to determine that allowing two operators to provide ferry service on Lake Chelan will not result in diminished levels of service by either or both operators.
- B. How did you factor the Commission's 2010 Report to the Legislature Pursuant to ESB 5894 on the Appropriateness of Rate and Service Regulation of Commercial Ferries Operating on Lake Chelan into your analysis provided in response to Bench Request 2.A.? If you did not factor the Commission's Report into your analysis, please explain your decision.

RESPONSE:

- A. Please see the prefiled testimony of Mike Dotson in this docket. Commission Staff measured public convenience and necessity by way of the overwhelming public support for approval of the application.
- B. Commission Staff did not factor the 2010 Report to the Legislature Pursuant to ESB 5894 into its analysis. Commission Staff based its analysis of whether the Commission should approve the application on the regulatory standards set forth in chapter 81.84 RCW and chapter 480-51 WAC.