

February 8, 2001

**OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS ON PROPOSED
RULE
(February 28, 2001)
and
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION HEARING
(March 14, 2001)**

RE: Docket No. UE-991168 Electric System Reliability - Rulemaking
New Rule, to be included in Chapter 480-100 WAC

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

This letter is to inform you of the progress made toward rulemaking for Electric System Reliability, to provide notice of an opportunity to file written comments on the proposed rule, and to invite you to participate in the formal proposed rule adoption hearing. The purpose of the proposed rule is to generate, and make available to the Commission, accurate and meaningful information about the reliability of electricity service to customers of electric utilities regulated by the Commission. These rules will allow the Commission to track trends in electric service reliability and to identify areas of special reliability concern, and will assist the Commission in its assessments of the adequacy of electric service provided to customers.

On January 11, 2001, the Commission authorized the filing of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102) with the Code Reviser. This action begins the final part of the rulemaking process, which includes a written comment period, a public adoption hearing, and a decision by the Commission.

NOTICE is hereby given of the opportunity to submit written comments on the proposed rule not later than 5:00 PM, Wednesday, February 28, 2001. The draft rules, as filed with the Code Reviser, are available for inspection on the Commission's web site at www.wutc.wa.gov/rulemakings/991168. The Commission will send you a paper copy of the draft rules or will send the proposal via electronic mail, if you ask. Please see the information at the end of this letter describing how to reach the Commission.

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Electronic copies. The Commission also 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 3 ½ 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 version 6 or later), labeled with the docket number of this proceeding (UE-991168) and the commenter's name and type of software used. Comments may also be provided by e-mail to <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 make available all comments provided in electronic form on the Commission's web site at <http://www.wutc.wa.gov/rulemakings/981168>. Documents will be posted within twenty-four hours of receipt. We ask all commenters to include a summary of their comments.

Comments delivered by mail or courier should be addressed to: Secretary, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, P.O. Box 47250, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, WA 98504-7250.

NOTICE is also hereby given of the opportunity to attend the public hearing for the adoption of the proposed rule at 9:30 A.M. Wednesday, March 14, 2001. This public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Chandler Plaza, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W., Olympia, Washington.

Questions: If you have questions about this Notice or about the rulemaking process, or this rulemaking in particular, you may contact Mark Anderson. He may be reached by mail at the address on this Notice, or by e-mail at manderso@wutc.wa.gov, or by calling 360-664-1311.

Thank you for your participation in this process.

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Secretary

Enclosure