

STATE OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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July 13, 2016

NOTICE WITHDRAWING PENALTY

RE: Big Sky Bus Lines, Inc., Commission Staff's Request to Waive Penalty Assessment Docket TE-160687

TO ALL PARTIES:

On June 20, 2016, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) issued and served a Penalty Assessment against Big Sky Bus Lines, Inc. (Big Sky 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 June 27, 2016, Big Sky responded to the penalty assessment and requested mitigation of the penalty based on the written information provided. The Company explained that it subcontracted with a Maryland company to provide transportation to a golf tournament in Washington on one occasion, and it has since voluntarily cancelled its charter and excursion carrier certificate with the Commission.

On July 8, 2016, Commission staff (Staff) filed a response recommending the Commission waive the \$1,000 penalty because Big Sky's charter and excursion carrier certificate was cancelled on June 23, 2016, in Docket TE-160828 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 Big Sky.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE that the Commission withdraws the penalty of \$1,000 assessed against Big Sky Bus Lines, Inc. and closes Docket TE-160687.

GREGORY J. KOPTA Director, Administrative Law Division