



STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

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July 13, 2016

Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary
Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Meixi Travel, LLC*

Commission Staff's Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties TE-160710

Dear Mr. King:

On June 21, 2016, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TE-160710 against Meixi Travel, LLC for ten violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-30-071 and 480-30-076), which requires charter and excursion carrier companies to furnish annual reports, supporting documentation and the regulatory fee to the commission no later than May 1 each year, or in this case, May 2 as May 1 was a Sunday.

On June 30, 2016, Meixi Travel, LLC wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties. In its mitigation request, Meixi Travel, LLC does not dispute the violation occurred. The company states, "...I didn't receive the 2015 annual report forms and the 2016 regulatory fee packages. When I received this notice, I called the UTC to proceed with this issue. Now I'm filing the annual report along with the regulatory fee."

It is the company's responsibility to ensure that the regulatory fee is paid and the annual report is filed by the May 1 deadline. On February 29, 2016, Annual Report packets were mailed to all regulated charter and excursion carrier companies. The instruction page informs the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form, provide the supporting financial reporting documents and pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 2, 2016, to avoid enforcement action.

The commission did not receive the annual report, nor the regulatory fee prior to May 2. On June 30, the commission received a complete annual report and payment of the outstanding regulatory fee.

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Meixi Travel, LLC has been active since 2014 and violated WAC 480-30-071 and 480-30-076 by filing their 2014 annual report late. As the company previously violated WAC 480-30-071 and 480-30-076, staff does not support any mitigation of the penalty.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Sean Bennett, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1157, or sbennett@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Sondra Walsh, Director
Administrative Services