August 25, 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. Pacific Utilities Contractors, Inc.*

Commission Staff’s Recommendation to Dismiss Mitigation Request.

Docket D-160789

Dear Mr. King:

On July 28, 2016, the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) issued a $3,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket D-160789, against Pacific Utilities Contractors, Inc. (Pacific Utilities) for three violations of RCW 19.122.

On August 15, 2016, the commission received an application from Pacific Utilities requesting mitigation of the penalty. Pacific Utilities asked for a commission decision based solely on the information they provided in their mitigation request.

On August 16, 2016, staff received notice that Pacific Utilities paid the full $3,000 penalty amount due. Staff was concerned that Pacific Utilities had both requested mitigation and paid the full penalty amount. Staff contacted Terri Bradford from Pacific Utilities and she stated the company originally wanted to mitigate the penalty amount, but after she sent in the request the company owner decided he wanted to pay the full penalty amount and close the case. Staff requested that Ms. Bradford provide the commission with this request in writing and her email dated Aug. 25, 2016, is attached to this letter.

Staff recommends that the commission dismiss Pacific Utilities mitigation request and accept their full penalty payment and close this docket.

Sincerely,

Alan E. Rathbun

Pipeline Safety Director

Enclosure (1)

