

March 5, 2004

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND
(By Wednesday, March 17, 2004)**

RE: Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Cougar Ridge
Water System, Docket No. UW-040367

TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD:

On March 1, 2004, the Commission entered an order initiating a special proceeding in this case to determine whether or not Cougar Ridge Water System is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. The Commission also initiated an investigation into the company's rates and charges. The Commission established March 25, 2004 as the date for a prehearing conference in this proceeding.

On March 3, 2004, Cougar Ridge Water System, by its attorney, filed a Motion to Establish Burden of Proof, objecting that the burden of proof in the proceeding is on the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. The company also filed an Objection to Order and Notice of Prehearing conference, objecting to the holding of a prehearing conference and requesting that the Commission establish a discovery conference instead.

NOTICE IS GIVEN that Commission Staff, and any other potential party to the proceeding, may respond on or before March 17, 2004, to the company's motion regarding the burden of proof and the company's objection to the prehearing conference. A ruling on the motion and the objection will be made during the time scheduled for the prehearing conference on March 25, 2004.

Sincerely,

THEODORA M. MACE
Administrative Law Judge