

May 29, 2007

Ms. Carole Washburn, Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW
PO Box 47259
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: DOCKET NO. TS-050443

We are formally withdrawing our application for passenger ferry service for the following reasons:

1. It is clear from the legislative action over that past 2 years that while passenger ferry service is desired, the legislature has done nothing but put roadblocks, or should we say flotsam, in the way of private business to develop such service.
2. The shortening from 5 years to 20 months to develop and implement service is nearly impossible in the regulatory environment we must wade through in order to start a passenger ferry business.
3. Island County Commissioners, while endorsing the concept, did not do anything necessary in order to construct a pier on Camano Island to service those residents of Island County who must drive 1 ½ hours to reach the county offices, when they could have been on a 15 minute ferry trip, right to downtown Coupeville, the county seat.
4. The example of Aqua Express attempting to provide service in King County is an example of how to inhibit private industry from starting and maintaining service. As we now see it private passenger ferry service in the Puget Sound area is "Dead in the Water!"

Sincerely,

John Solin & Mike Lauver
Members, Feet Wet Partners, LLC