

July 8, 2016

Mr. Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary
Utilities and Transportation Commission
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

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FINANCIAL SERVICES

Dear Secretary King,

This letter is in regards to a penalty in Docket TE-160683 that has been assessed to my company, Barnfather Properties, LLC doing business as: Olympic Peninsula Adventures.

I would like to point out some of the fallacies in the correspondence that I have been receiving. Yes, I did request a hearing to explain why I didn't receive paper work from the UTC. There has been several mix-ups with my current address with the UTC, even after I have corrected it at least two times. Also, one of the letters stated that someone called my business and left a message. However, there is no record on my caller ID of anyone calling from the UTC, and certainly no messages were left. At this time of year, I carry my cell phone everywhere and have other numbers forwarded as well. I find it very hard to believe anyone made an attempt to contact me. Had I known, I was out of compliance, I would have rectified this entire situation immediately. Plus, the threatening letters did not help at all.

I am reluctantly paying this fine and I really do object to the fairness of the procedures and notifications. However, I do appreciate the reduction from the original amount. I guess what is really bothering me about all of this, is that I am just a very small business who operates a Tour business on my days off from the WA House of Representatives, where I work full-time as a Legislative Assistant to the House Majority Whip. Because of the fatalities associated with The Duck Sightseeing Company in Seattle, my insurance rates on the Olympic Peninsula have tripled this year. Plus, there are very few Insurance vendors who will even write a policy for a Tour van business. A fine of \$250 may not seem like a large amount to some companies, but when I'm just working to pay Insurances this year, it seems excessive and very disappointing.

Thank you for reading my letter. I hope that some of the staff can do a better job when it comes to helping out the businesses. Please accept my report and check for \$250.00

Sincerely,


Linda Barnfather