



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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Jan. 21, 2016

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

Re: D-150572 Penalty Assessment

Dear Mr. King:

On June 22, 2015, Steve Ruhnke Construction, Inc., (Ruhnke Construction) was issued a \$1,000 penalty for violations of RCW 19.122.030(1) and RCW 19.122.050. Ruhnke Construction had the option to have the penalty waived on the conditions that (1) Ruhnke Construction's five superintendents/field representatives, two locate staff, and a representative of company ownership attend "Dig Safe" training provided through the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA); and (2) Ruhnke Construction commit no further violations of RCW 19.122 within the next 12 months. On July 8, 2015, the commission received notification from Ruhnke Construction that the company admitted the violation occurred and accepted the commission's offer to suspend the penalty on the stated conditions.

The penalty assessment specified that Ruhnke Construction commit no further violations of RCW 19.122. On Oct. 6, 2015, the Safety Committee issued a recommendation to the commission regarding a July 2, 2015, violation of RCW 19.122 by Ruhnke Construction. On Jan. 14, 2016, the commission issued a \$2,500 penalty assessment against the company.

Staff recommends the suspended \$1,000 penalty be imposed for violating a commission order by committing a second violation of RCW 19.122 within the 12 months following the issuance of the June 22, 2015, penalty assessment.

Sincerely,

Pat Hazzard, Director  
Safety and Consumer Protection