



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503
P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160 • TTY 1-800-833-6384 or 711

February 22, 2021

**NOTICE OF CHANGES TO TARIFF 15-C TO UPDATE RULES REGARDING
CALCULATION OF MILEAGE FOR LONG-DISTANCE MOVES IN ITEM 105,
AND TO INCREASE THE MAXIMUM CONTAINER RATES IN ITEM 195, ITEM
196, AND ITEM 225**

RE: *In the Matter of Amending Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
Tariff 15-C, Relating to Intrastate Transportation of Household Goods, Docket TV-210035*

TO ALL PARTIES:

Effective Feb. 11, 2021, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) approved the following changes to Tariff 15-C:

Item 105 – General Application of Rates For Long Distance Moves

Reference to using the “Household Goods Carriers Bureau Mileage Guide” as a method to determine mileage for long distance moves was removed from Item 105. This mileage guide is no longer being updated and because it is obsolete, should no longer be referenced in the tariff rules.

Language was added that allows companies more flexibility to use their preferred mileage calculation software for determining appropriate charges for long-distance moves. The tariff only allowed for the use of Rand McNally’s Mile Maker software (Mile Maker), which is a costly commercial software solution for determining mileage. Revisions allow the use of other software similar to Mile Maker, but companies are no longer required to use Mile Maker exclusively.

A requirement was added that carriers must use the route that reflects the least number of miles between the point of origin and the destination, regardless of the software used. In addition, carriers must identify on the Estimate and Bill of Lading Forms which software was used when determining the appropriate mileage for a long-distance move.

Item 195 – Packing Charges, Item 196 – Container Prices, and Item 225 – Container Prices

The Commission approved a nine percent increase to container rates. In a letter dated Jan. 7, 2021, the Washington Movers Conference provided notices sent by two of the largest container suppliers, Pioneer Packaging and Victory Packaging, referencing a nine percent price increase to all containers in 2021, citing increased demand for cardboard containers due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Because of Tariff 15-C's banded rate structure and the need to provide recovery of costs and a reasonable return on investment, the Commission approved Staff's recommendation to increase the maximum rates for all containers by nine percent. For the container prices listed in Item 195 – Packing Charges and Item 225 – Container Prices, all maximum rates were increased by nine percent. For Item 196 – Container Prices, which are rates that include both container prices and labor costs for packing the containers, the proposed rates include a nine percent increase to the container portion of the rates only.

The updated version of Tariff 15-C, as well as sample Estimate and Bill of Lading Forms containing line items for identification of mileage calculation software used, can be found at: <https://www.utc.wa.gov/regulatedIndustries/transportation/householdGoods/Pages/default.aspx>

If you have any questions about this Notice or Tariff 15-C, please contact Andrew Roberts, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1101.

Sincerely,



Bridgit Feeser
Consumer Protection Assistant Director