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June 5, 2019

Mark L. Johnson, Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

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COMMISSION

Re: Provision of Confidential Documents to Newly-Retained Commission Consultant in Docket
No. UT-181051

Dear Mr. Johnson:

On May 30, 2019, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) terminated Contract No. 19-PS26 with Emergency Public Safety Communications Consultants (EPSCC) for the provision of services as an independent expert consultant in Docket UT-181051. On June 3, 2019, the Commission retained a new independent expert consultant, Jeffrey Wheeler, to replace EPSCC in Docket UT-181051.

By this letter, Commission Staff (Staff) gives notice to the Commission and other interested parties that Staff intends to send documents that have been filed with the Commission in Dockets UT-140597 and UT-170042, which contain information designated as confidential for purposes of Staff's investigation in Docket UT-181051 to Mr. Wheeler, pursuant to Order 04 in Dockets UT-140597 and UT-170042 (Order 04). Order 04's confidentiality provisions contemplate that Staff may engage additional or different expert consultants in this matter, by expressly permitting access to confidential information to Staff's "consultant" rather than any specified individual.¹

Sincerely,

/s/ Sally Brown, WSBA No. 17094
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SGB/klg
cc: Parties

¹ Order 04 provides that: "Notwithstanding any other provision of this Order, Commission Staff, its attorneys, and its consultant may access documents that have been filed with the Commission in this docket and contain information designated as confidential for purposes of Staff's investigation in Docket UT-181051. Such access, however, is limited to the documents specified in Attachment A to Order 04 in this docket." The Administrative Law Judge wisely anticipated the possibility that Staff may engage additional consultants during the pendency of this proceeding.