

August 1, 2012

**NOTICE SEEKING COMMENT ON  
DRAFT LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH  
A STATE UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND  
(due August 10, 2012)**

**NOTICE OF FOURTH WORKSHOP  
(August 14, 2012, beginning at 9:30 a.m.)**

RE: *Policy Statement to Review State Universal Service Policies,*  
Docket UT-100562

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:**

On April 7, 2010, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) initiated this proceeding to consider development of a policy statement and potential revisions to state universal service policies in response to a request from six state legislators.

On November 29, 2012, the Commission released its Report Reviewing State Telecommunications Policies on Universal Service (Report) in which it set forth a recommended approach to establishing a state universal service fund (state USF). Since release of the Report, Commission Staff has conducted individual earnings reviews of the incumbent telephone companies that could be eligible for assistance from a state USF.

As a further follow up to the Report, the Commission has prepared draft legislation to establish a state USF to assist the state's smaller incumbent telephone companies in meeting their universal service obligations. A discussion draft of agency request legislation is attached to this Notice (Discussion Draft).

**THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE of the opportunity to submit written comments to the Commission on the Discussion Draft no later than 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 10, 2012.**

The Commission asks that you provide your comments in electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate quotations from the comments. You may submit comments via the Commission's Web portal at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing> or by e-mail to the Commission's Records Center at [records@utc.wa.gov](mailto:records@utc.wa.gov).

**THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE That the Commission will conduct a workshop on the Discussion Draft and any other related matters that may be raised in this proceeding on August 14, 2012, beginning at 9:30 a.m. until no later than Noon. The workshop will be held in Room 206, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.**

An agenda for the August 14 meeting will be made available to stakeholders shortly after the August 10 comment deadline.

Questions regarding written comments, the potential workshop, or other aspects of this proceeding may be addressed to Brian Thomas, the Commission's telecommunications policy analyst, by e-mail at [bthomas@utc.wa.gov](mailto:bthomas@utc.wa.gov) or by calling (360) 664-1212.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. DANNER  
Executive Director and Secretary