

Stevens County Fire District No. 6

P.O. Box 1268 Kettle Falls Washington 99141

Message phone (509) 738-6664

April 26, 1999

Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Docket No. TR-981102


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STEVENS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 6
KETTLE FALLS, WA 99141

The Commissioners have reviewed the information packet you sent. The District does not have a copy of the Railroad Company Operations Rules nor have any of us read them so we are not sure how to reply to your query. The District does have areas that can only be accessed by railroad crossings and we are concerned that these crossings are, at times, blocked by unbroken and apparently unattended trains. We appreciate the value of the trains to the area economy, but at the same time are concerned about the need for quick response to residential and business fires.

A second concern is the large quantities of unknown substances that are traveling through our community. We would most likely be involved in accidents resulting in spillage or fire and do not have information available to the firemen concerning what materials might be involved. The trucking industry has requirements for hazardous material signing but we are not aware of a requirement for the railroads to have the same system.

The Commissioners thank you for this opportunity to present their comments and concerns.

Sincerely,



Stan Tellvik
Secretary
SCFPD#6

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