



SERVICE DATE

APR - 8 1999

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(360) 753-6423 • TTY (360) 586-8203

April 1, 1999

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(April 30, 1999)

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP
(May 27, 1999)

RE: Railroad Company Operations Rulemaking
Chapter 480-62 WAC
Docket No. TR-981102

RECEIVED
RECORDS MANAGEMENT
99MAY 14 AM 11:05
STATE OF WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

TO INTERESTED PERSONS:

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is considering amending or repealing rules contained in Chapter 480-62 WAC in accordance with Executive Order 97-02. That order requires agencies to review significant rules against specified standards, including:

1. Do the rules comply with authorizing statutes?
2. Are the rules written and organized in a clear and concise manner so they are readily understood by those to whom they apply?
3. Are the current rules obsolete, duplicative, or in need of repeal?
4. Do the current rules provide the results that they were originally intended to achieve?

The rulemaking process will also review and determine whether there is a need to add rules concerning:

1. Reporting requirements regarding notification of:
Any railroad company activity that will affect a surrounding community;

AS TO REPAIR WORK ON TRACKS THAT COULD CAUSE FIRE OR OTHER DISASTERS WITHOUT PROPER PRECAUTIONS BEING TAKEN.

Gene Arlt
301 E 3RD RITZVILLE WA 99109

RECEIVED
MAY 14 1999
WASH. UT. & TP. L. DIV.

WRITTEN
comment rec'd
From:
Gene Arlt
Regarding
Reporting

- Company ownership changes and related information;
- Remote control train operations;
- Company time tables, bulletins, and notices; and,
- Identity and contact information of railroad police;
- 2. Identifying Commission processes;
- 3. Blocking crossings;
- 4. Identifying specific maintenance requirements and standards regarding:
 - Crossing surfaces; and,
 - Signals and circuitry;
- 5. Identifying specific safety and operating rules regarding:
 - Industrial and logging railroads;
 - Commuter rail;
 - Track motor cars and related on-track equipment; and,
 - Post-accident drug and alcohol testing;
- 6. Identifying specific procedures when considering petitions to implement whistle bans; and,
- 7. Improving the process for filing petitions for grade crossing improvements.

The Commission will also consider adopting by reference applicable portions of:

- 1. USDOT Federal Railroad Administration regulations;
- 2. USDOT Federal Highway Administration regulations; and,
- 3. Railroad company General Code of Operating Rules (GCOR).

Interested persons may also request the Commission consider other related issues.

Please respond with your suggestions, comments or questions in regard to the proposed rulemaking or any part of this letter no later than **April 30, 1999**. Please submit your comments to: Secretary, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7250, (360) 664-1160, or e-mail <records@wutc.wa.gov>. Please refer to Docket No. TR-981102 in your communications.

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP. The Commission has scheduled an initial workshop to discuss Chapter 480-62 WAC. The workshop will be held in the Commission's hearing room, Room 206, at 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, WA on **Thursday, May 27, 1999 beginning at 9:30 a.m.**