



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

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January 22, 2013

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING & ABC/LMI

David Danner
Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Pk. Dr. S.W.
P. O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Rulemaking to Consider Modifications to, or Elimination of, The Requirement Related to
Distribution of Telephone Books in WAC 480-120-251
Docket UT-120451

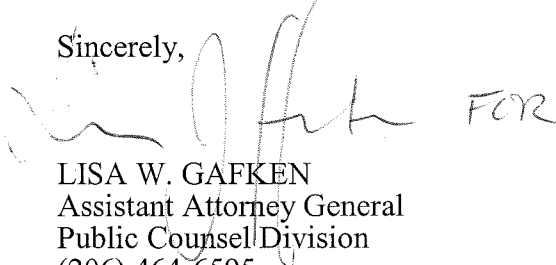
Comments of Public Counsel in Response to Notice of Opportunity to Submit Written Comments On Supplemental Proposal

Dear Mr. Danner:

Enclosed please find an original copy of the Comments of Public Counsel for filing in the above-entitled docket. For confirmation of receipt, I have enclosed a copy to be date-stamped and sent back to us with the ABC Legal Messenger. A copy was also sent via e-mail on January 22, 2013.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

 FOR
LISA W. GAFKEN
Assistant Attorney General
Public Counsel Division
(206) 464-6595

LWG:cjw
Enclosure

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

RE: RULEMAKING TO CONSIDER
MODIFICATIONS TO, OR ELIMINATION
OF, THE REQUIREMENT RELATED TO
DISTRIBUTION OF TELEPHONE BOOKS
IN WAC 480-120-251

DOCKET UT-120451

**COMMENTS OF PUBLIC COUNSEL
IN RESPONSE
TO NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS ON
SUPPLEMENTAL PROPOSAL**

JANUARY 22, 2013

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In response to the Commission's Notice of Opportunity to Submit Written Comments on a supplemental proposal (Supplemental CR-102) dated December 20, 2012, Public Counsel offers the following comments.

II. COMMENTS

2. The Commission has filed a supplemental CR-102 in this docket. The supplemental proposed rule is identical to the proposed rule in the Commission's October 31, 2012, notice with one exception. Section 4 of the existing rule, which requires that directory listings must be updated no less frequently than every fifteen months, had been removed in the Commission's earlier proposed rule, but has been restored in the supplemental revised proposed rule. As this is consistent with the comments Public Counsel filed on November 14, 2012, we view this change positively. We are pleased that the proposed rule will maintain the requirement that directory listings will be updated every fifteen months.

3. However, Public Counsel is disappointed that the Commission declined to mandate saturation distribution of the so-called Blue Pages directories and also failed to incorporate language to clarify that all White Pages directories must be provided to customers free of charge. We are further concerned that the Commission did not retain the consumer information guide section of the existing rule (Section 6), which provides valuable information on customer's rights and responsibilities. Please refer to Public Counsel's November 14, 2012, comments which address these concerns in more detail.

III. CONCLUSION

4. Public Counsel appreciates the opportunity to provide additional comment and will be in attendance at the February 14, 2013, Proposed Rule Adoption Hearing.