

[Service Date November 10, 2011]

November 10, 2011

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(By Friday, December 9, 2011)**

RE: *Rulemaking to Consider Revising Household Goods Carrier Entry and Fitness
Standard Rules in WAC 480-15*
Docket TV-111493

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On August 24, 2011, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed with the Code Reviser a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) to consider revising the entry and fitness standards for household goods carriers in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-15. The Commission filed the CR-101 under Docket TV-111493.

Entry standards for household goods carriers are minimal. Applicants must properly complete the application, pay the fee, and provide proof of both liability and cargo insurance. Once these steps are completed, the Commission grants a permit. The existing rules may be insufficient, perhaps granting permits to applicants that are unfit to operate, such as applicants with inadequate operating capital, inadequate equipment, or criminal histories. This rulemaking will consider the need to set standards that allow qualified companies to obtain permits and, at the same time, protect the public from unscrupulous, unsafe, or unfit household goods moving companies. Entry and fitness standards are contained in Part 2 of the household goods carrier rules (WAC 480-15-180 through WAC 480-15-450).

The Commission received written comments on its CR-101 on September 26, 2011. In addition, Commission staff held a workshop with interested stakeholders on October 11, 2011. As a result of the written comments and the stakeholder workshop, Commission staff has developed draft rules for review and comment by interested persons. The draft rules are available for inspection on the Commission's website at

www.utc.wa.gov/111493. If you are unable to access the Commission's web page and would like a copy of the draft rules mailed to you, please contact the Commission's Records Center at (360) 664-1234.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Commission invites comments on the draft rules. Written comments on the draft rules must be filed with the Commission by **Friday, December 9, 2011**. The Commission requests that comments be provided in Adobe Acrobat format ".pdf" or in Word 97 or later ".doc" electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate responses from the comments. Electronic comments may be submitted via the Commission's Web portal (www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing) or by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at <records@utc.wa.gov>. Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (TV-111493).
- The commenting party's name.
- The title and date of the comment or comments.

An alternative method for submitting comments may be by mailing/delivering an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center on a 3 ½ inch, IBM-formatted, high-density disk in .pdf Adobe Acrobat format or in .doc Word 97 or later format. Please include all of the information requested above. The Commission will post on its web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at the following URL address: www.utc.wa.gov/111493.

If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a disk, the Commission will accept a paper document. Questions may be addressed to Vicki Elliott at (360) 664-1119 or by e-mail at velliott@utc.wa.gov.

OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FUTURE

The Commission will post information about the schedule and other aspects of the rulemaking, including comments, on its website as it becomes available. If you wish to receive further information on this rulemaking you may:

- 1) Call the Commission's Records Center at (360) 664-1234.
- 2) E-mail the Commission at <records@utc.wa.gov>.
- 3) Mail written comments to the address below.

When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket TV-111493 to ensure that you are placed on the appropriate service list.

The Commission's mailing address is:

Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Sincerely,

DAVID W. DANNER
Executive Director and Secretary