

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

SPEEDISHUTTLE WASHINGTON, LLC,

Petitioner and Complainant,

v.

SHUTTLE EXPRESS, INC.,

Respondent

DOCKET TC-161257

COMMISSION STAFF'S RESPONSE
TO SPEEDISHUTTLE'S MOTION TO
CONSOLIDATE (FILED 12/16/2016)

1 On December 16, 2016, Speedishuttle moved to consolidate this docket, TC-161257,
with existing consolidated dockets TC-143691 and TC-160516.

2 Staff supports Speedishuttle's motion. From Staff's perspective, Speedishuttle has
adequately demonstrated that the dockets will involve related issues of law and fact for
purposes of WAC 480-07-320.¹

3 Staff writes separately to emphasize the importance of administrative efficiency.
Shuttle Express and Speedishuttle are already scheduled to appear before the Commission
for an evidentiary hearing in consolidated dockets TC-143691 and TC-160516. For
efficiency's sake, the Commission should use this hearing as an opportunity to adjudicate
Speedishuttle's new allegations in docket TC-161257. It makes little practical sense to have
the parties and their witnesses return for a separate hearing on a different day.

4 Shuttle Express may object to consolidation on the basis that it would necessitate
(another) reworking of the procedural schedule in existing consolidated dockets TC-143691
and TC-160516. That is a valid concern but one that should yield to the interest of avoiding
a multiplicity of hearings. Delay, in Staff's view, is better than duplication.

¹ See Speedishuttle's Motion to Consolidate, pp. 4-5, ¶ 10.

5

Staff respectfully recommends that the Commission grant Speedishuttle's motion.

Upon consolidation, the Commission can take up the issue of the procedural schedule. At an appropriate time, the Commission should convene a prehearing conference for that purpose.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED December 28, 2016.

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