

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of Amending Washington
Utilities and Transportation Commission
Tariff 15-C, Relating to Intrastate
Transportation of Household Goods

DOCKET TV-160432

ORDER 01

ORDER APPROVING PROPOSED
REVISIONS TO TARIFF 15-C,
ITEM 200 AND ITEM 230

BACKGROUND

- 1 RCW 81.80.150 assigns certain duties and responsibilities to the Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) for tariffs that apply to intrastate transportation of household goods. These duties include amending, altering and reissuing tariffs when changes are approved by the Commission.
- 2 The Commission published Tariff 15-C, which applies to the intrastate transportation of household goods, effective February 1, 2008. In the current docket, TV-160432, the Washington Movers Conference (WMC) proposes to amend Tariff 15-C, Item 200 (Mileage Rates) and Item 230 (Hourly Rates) to adjust rates for inflation. WMC cites various factors in support of its proposal, including increases to the minimum wage and taxes, criminal background check requirements, and new federal compliance requirements. WMC did not propose a specific rate increase.
- 3 On September 30, 2016, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity to Submit Written Comments by October 14, 2016. In the Notice, Staff proposes a rate increase of 14.5 percent, which represents the difference between growth in nominal and real GDP in Washington since the last rate revision was approved in 2008. The Commission received one comment from Eagle Transfer Company, Inc. in support of the proposed increase to Mileage and Hourly rates. No other party filed comments.
- 4 Staff recommends that the Commission approve the revisions to Tariff 15-C as set forth in Attachment 1 to this Order.

DISCUSSION

- 5 We agree with Staff's recommendation and approve the proposed amendments to Tariff 15-C. WMC identified a number of factors that have contributed to increased costs for household goods carriers in recent years despite rates remaining stagnant since 2008. Accordingly, increasing rates for both hourly and mileage-rated moves to adjust for inflation is appropriate, and Staff's recommended 14.5 percent increase is reasonable.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington required by statute to compile, publish and distribute tariffs containing rates, charges, classifications, rules and regulations to be used by all common carriers.
- 7 (2) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 27, 2016.
- 8 (3) After review and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the tariff applying to the transportation of household goods in the state of Washington should be amended as Commission Staff recommends.

ORDER

- 9 **THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT** Effective October 28, 2016, the changes proposed to Tariff 15-C, attached to this Order and by this reference made a part of the Order, is adopted for use by all carriers transporting household goods in the state of Washington that are subject to Commission regulation.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective October 27, 2016.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Chairman

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner

ANN E. RENDAHL, Commissioner