

June 12, 2002

Carole Washburn, Secretary
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: *WUTC v. Klickitat County*
Docket No. TR-980897

Dear Ms. Washburn:

A settlement presentation hearing in this matter was held June 5, 2002, in Lyle, Washington, before ALJ Larry Berg. At that hearing, and at the public comment hearing that immediately followed it, it became apparent that the Settlement Agreement previously filed in this matter might benefit from some clarifying amendments.

Staff therefore asks that Judge Berg not issue an order in this matter until Staff has had an opportunity to determine if the parties would be willing to execute an Amended Settlement Agreement in this matter.

Staff is in the process of circulating some proposed amendments to the Settlement Agreement to further clarify how improvements the vicinity of the Depot Road crossing are to be carried out in connection with the proposed closure. If the parties agree to the amendments, Staff will forward the amended settlement to you immediately for the Commission's consideration. If the parties choose not to amend the settlement, Staff will also inform you immediately of that decision. I would anticipate that, either way, this will take no longer than two weeks.

Very truly yours,

JONATHAN C. THOMPSON
Assistant Attorney General

JCT:kl
cc: All parties