

May 23, 2007

Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Reference: WUTC Docket TV-070466

The following are comments submitted by the Washington Movers Conference regarding proposed changes to WAC 480-15 contained in Docket TV-070466.

WAC 480-15-010 – Purpose and application. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-020 – Definitions.

- (1.) Recommend changing the word “secondary” in the first sentence to “incidental”. Recommend changing the beginning of second sentence to “Examples include but are not limited to ...”
- (11.) Recommend the following change to the first sentence. “... or by another individual designated by the customer ...”
- (20.) Recommend the following change “... in a way that is different from the original written Estimate.”

WAC 480-15-035 – Exemptions from rules. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-XXX – Payment to the commission. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-XXX – Address or telephone change. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-XXX – Commission proceedings. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-180 – Carrier operations that require household goods permit. With current household goods permits granted for operations in the state of Washington, recommend eliminating all language following paragraph (1.) (a.). It is believed the listed cities now have populations greater than 30,000.

WAC 480-15-185 – Types of household goods permits. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-230 – Application fees. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-270 – Emergency temporary authority. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-280 – Temporary authority. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-285 – Rejecting an application for temporary authority. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-290 – Granting temporary authority. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-310 – Commenting on actions regarding temporary authority. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-320 – Canceling a temporary permit. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-330 – Permanent authority. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-335 – Exemptions to permanent authority application process. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-340 – Commenting on an application for permanent authority. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-350 – Setting an application for hearing. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-360 – Retaining copies of the permit. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-370 – Lost or destroyed permit. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-380 – Allowing others to use permit authority. Recommend beginning the first sentence with the word "Intrastate ..."

WAC 480-15-390 – Permit names or trade names. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-400 – Changing a permit name. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-410 – Voluntary suspension of a permit. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-420 – Voluntary cancellation of a permit. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-430 – Involuntary suspension.

(1.) Recommend changing the word "may" to "will suspend ..."

(2.) Recommend changing the word "may" to "will suspend ..."

WAC 480-15-450 – Involuntary cancellation of a permit. Recommend adding (h.) as follows – "Is in violation of applicable rules of other state government agencies."

WAC 480-15-480 – Annual reports and regulatory fees. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-490 - Tariff and rates, general. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-500 – Tariff maintenance and fees. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-510 – Changing commission-published tariffs. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-520 – Individual carrier tariffs. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-530 – Public liability and property damage insurance. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-550 – Cargo insurance. Recommending adding "(5) Requiring the insurance provider to notify the WUTC of changes to coverage."

WAC 480-15-560 – Equipment safety requirements. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-570 – Driver safety requirements. Recommend this rule mirror the federal safety requirements.

WAC 480-15-590 – Leasing vehicles. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-600 – Lease responsibilities. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-610 – Advertising. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-630 – Estimates.

(2.) Recommend the following change – "... amount the carrier will charge to move ..."

(3.) Recommend adding – "...estimate prior to additional work being performed."

WAC 480-15-660 – Supplemental estimates. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-710 – Bill of lading. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-750 – Weight. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-800 – Customer complaints and claims. Recommend reducing the time limit to file a claim for loss or damage to 6-months.

WAC 480-15-810 – Resolving customer complaints or claims. Paragraph 4a. – Recommend changing the time period to 90-days.

WAC 480-15-830 – Complaint and claims records retention. Concur as drafted.

WAC 480-15-890 – Commission-referred complaints.

(1.) Change the “five days” to “ten days”.

(3.) Change the “120 day period” to “90 day period”.

WAC 480-15-900 – Requirements for interstate operations. Delete paragraph (1c.)

The following are comments submitted by the Washington Movers Conference to proposed changes to WUTC Tariff No. 15-B contained in Docket TV-070466.

ITEM 05 – Application of Tariff. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 15 – Refusal to provide service, pickup shipment or deliver shipment. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 25 – Deliver to or from a warehouse. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 35 – Delivery time and means. Paragraph 2 – If the shipment is given to another carrier, under whose authority is the shipment moving?

ITEM 45 – Storage when delivery cannot be made. Concur as drafted.

ITEM XX – Disposition of unclaimed goods. The drafted language is too ambiguous. There are legal rules to consider when disposing of unclaimed household goods.

ITEM 20 – Definitions.

Assessorial Services – In the first sentence, recommend changing the word “secondary” to “incidental”. In the second sentence, add ...include but not limited to...”

Hourly-Rated Shipment – Recommend changing “35 miles” to “55 miles”.

Mileage-Rated Shipment – Recommend changing the “35 miles” to “56” miles or more”.

ITEM 55 – Other rates and charges. Recommend deleting the following Items:

- a. Household goods packing or unpacking.
- b. Boxes, cartons or other containers in which to pack household goods. These items cannot become “give away” items. The minimum/maximum rates are easily adjusted for inflation and the item list can be expanded to include new items including a section for rental pricing for the new plastic crates and wardrobe containers being introduced to the industry.
- c. Tape, paper or other products used to pack, unpack or move household goods. Charges for these items are contained in the Packing Charges, ITEM 195.

ITEM 65 – Customer-packed goods. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 80 – Method of payment. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 85 - Estimates. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 90 – Carrier liability for household goods and customer valuation options.

5(b) – Depreciated value protection – Delete, no longer used.

5(d) – Replacement cost coverage – Recommend increasing the maximum carrier liability from “\$3.50” to “\$5.00”

ITEM 10 – Customer liability and responsibility. Concur as drafted.

ITEM XX – Items not accepted. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 95 – Bill of lading.

1.I – Recommend deleting Depreciated value protection.

ITEM 100 – Storage.

3.B – Charges for S-I-T and warehouse handling. Recommend changing “charges must be listed by the carrier and agreed to by the customer on the written estimate” to “charges in accordance with the Tariff must be shown on the written estimate”. As previously stated in this ITEM, a move that includes S-I-T is one continuous move from origin to S-I-T to the final destination. Tariff rates must apply to the entire move.

ITEM 110 – Storage in vehicle. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 105 – General application of rates for mileage for mileage-rated moves.

1. Recommend changing “more than 35 miles” to “56 miles or more”.

ITEM 205 – General application of rates for hourly-rated moves.

1. Recommend changing “moves of 35 miles or less” to “moves of 55 miles or less”.

ITEM 115 – Weight of shipment. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 180 – Reweighing. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 50 – Overtime. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 200 – Mileage rates. Concur as drafted.

ITEM 201 – Mileage rates for shipments moving into storage-in-transit

1. Recommend changing “within 35 miles” to “within 55 miles”.

ITEM 230 – Hourly rates. Concur as drafted.

Sincerely,

James R. Tutton, Jr.
Executive Director