

May 2, 2001

**OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS ON PROPOSED
RULES AND SBEIS QUESTIONNAIRE
(May 18, 2001)**

and

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION HEARING
(June 27, 2001)**

RE: Docket No. UG-990294
Gas Companies – Operations Rulemaking: 480-90 WAC

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

This letter is to inform you of the progress made toward reviewing WAC 480-90-056 Refusal of Service and WAC 480-90-116 Responsibility for delinquent accounts, and to provide notice of an opportunity to file written comments on the proposed rules, respond to the SBEIS Questionnaire, and participate in the formal rule adoption hearing.

On March 14, 2001, the Commission repealed current sections with the exception of WAC 480-90-056 Refusal of Service and WAC 480-90-116 Responsibility for delinquent accounts, and adopted new sections in Chapter 480-90 WAC. The Commission also directed the Secretary to file a Supplemental Notice of Inquiry (CR-102) to address issues related to proposed WAC 480-90-123 Refusal of service and WAC 480-90-153 Disclosure of private information.

NOTICE is hereby given of the opportunity to submit written comments on the proposed rules and respond to the SBEIS Questionnaire not later than 5:00 PM, May 18, 2001. The draft rules, are available for inspection on the Commission's web site at www.wutc.wa.gov.990294. The Commission will send you a paper copy of the draft rules or will send the proposal via electronic mail, if you ask. Please see the information at the end of this letter describing how to reach the Commission.

Electronic copies. The Commission also requests, but does not require, that comments be provided in electronic format to facilitate quotations from the comments, to enhance public access, and to reduce the need for additional paper copies. Please help us by sending an electronic copy with your paper filing on a 3-1/2 inch, IBM-formatted, high density disk, in .pdf

Adobe Acrobat format, reflecting the pagination of your original. Please also send us the text in your choice of .doc (Word 97 or later) or .wpd (WordPerfect 6.0 or later). Please include all of the following information on the label of the diskette:

- * The docket number of this proceeding (UG-990294)
- * The commenting party's name
- * The title and date of the comment or comments; and
- * The type of software used

Please use the three-letter extension noted above for all electronic files. You may also send your comments by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@wutc.wa.gov; if you choose this means of submitting comments, please include all of the information requested above for the diskette label. The Commission will post on the Commission's web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at <http://www.wutc.wa.gov.990294>.

NOTICE is also hereby given of the opportunity to attend the public hearing and make oral comments about the proposal for the adoption of the proposed rules at 9:30 AM, Wednesday, June 27, 2001. This public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Chandler Plaza, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W., Olympia, Washington.

Questions: If you have questions about this Notice about the rulemaking process, or this rulemaking in particular, you may contact Jim Russell. He may be reached by mail at the address on this Notice, or by e-mail at jrussell@wutc.wa.gov, or by calling 360-664-1318.

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Secretary

Enclosures