

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order R-435, Docket No. TS-941485, filed 10/18/95, effective 11/18/95)

WAC 480-51-040 Notice of application--Protests--Contemporaneous applications. (1) The commission shall send a notice of each application for certificated commercial ferry service and each application to operate vessels providing excursion service, with a description of the terms of that application, to all persons presently certificated to provide service; all present applicants for certificates to provide service; the department of transportation; affected cities and counties; and any other person who has requested, in writing, to receive such notices. Interested persons may file a protest with the commission within thirty days after service of the notice. The protest shall state the specific grounds for opposing the application and contain a concise statement of the interest of the protestant in the proceeding. A person who is eligible to file a protest and fails to do so may not participate further in the proceeding in any way, unless it can be demonstrated that failure to file a protest was due to an omission by the commission in providing proper notification of the pending application.

(2) If any person wishes to seek authority which overlaps, in whole or in part, with that sought in any pending application, it must apply for that authority within thirty days following mailing of the notice of filing of the initial application in order for the applications to be considered jointly. During the thirty-day period, pending applications will be on file and available for inspection in the commission's headquarters office in Olympia.

(3) The commission may consolidate overlapping pending applications, pursuant to WAC (~~(480-09-610)~~) 480-07-320, for joint consideration.

(4) Overlapping applications which are not filed within thirty days of the initial application will not be jointly considered with the initial application and will not be decided until after the conclusion of proceedings resolving the initial application and any other application qualifying for joint consideration.

(5) The commission may consider and decide, on any schedule, portions of an overlapping application when:

(a) The portions to be heard do not overlap a prior pending application; and

(b) The overlapping portions may appropriately be severed from the portions to be heard.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order R-435, Docket No. TS-941485, filed 10/18/95, effective 11/18/95)

WAC 480-51-050 Waiver of ten-mile restriction. (1)
Application. An application to provide service otherwise forbidden by the ten-mile restriction in RCW 47.60.120 shall include a request for waiver of that restriction.

(2) **Notice--Protests.** The commission shall send a notice of each application for waiver of the ten-mile restriction pursuant to WAC 480-51-030. Interested persons shall have twenty days from the date of mailing of the notice in which to file a protest with the commission stating opposition to the waiver petition and application. Protests should set forth specifically the grounds upon which they are made and contain a concise statement of the interest of the protestant in the proceeding.

(3) **Standards.** In determining whether to grant or deny a waiver, the commission shall consider, but is not limited to, the impact of the waiver on:

- (a) Transportation congestion mitigation;
- (b) Air quality improvement; and
- (c) The Washington state ferry system.

(4) **Resolution--Hearing.** The commission shall act upon a request for a waiver of the ten-mile restriction within ninety days after the conclusion of the hearing. The commission may in its discretion separate the request for a waiver of the ten-mile restriction from other issues in the application when necessary to comply with the statutory ninety-day deadline.

(5) **Effective period of waiver.**

(a) A waiver granted to an applicant or certificate holder under RCW 47.60.010(3) shall be effective for a period of five years from the date of grant of the waiver.

(b) Pursuant to RCW 47.60.010(3), the waiver shall automatically become permanent unless appealed to the commission, or unless reviewed by the commission upon its own motion, no later than thirty days after the fifth anniversary of the effective date of the waiver as set forth in (a) of this subsection. The commission will issue no notice of the expiration date of the five-year period. The burden of proof to show that the waiver should not become permanent shall be upon the party who files the appeal or upon the commission, if the review is on the commission's own motion. Persons who may appeal include the department of transportation, affected cities and counties, and any interested party. An interested party,

for the purposes of this rule, means any party to the proceeding in which the application was granted, any person certificated to provide service possessing overlapping authority, and any applicant for overlapping authority.

(c) Upon receipt of an appeal of a waiver and the holder's answer, if any, the commission shall set the matter for adjudication. The commission may, in its discretion, on the request of a party, or on its own motion, order a brief adjudicative proceeding on the appeal. WAC ((480-09-500)) 480-07-610 governs applications for and procedures in brief adjudicative proceedings.

(6) **Certificates containing waiver.** Certificates granted in conjunction with the grant of a waiver shall include the following proviso:

"Pursuant to RCW 47.60.010(3), the waiver of the ten-mile restriction granted in this certificate is effective until (DATE). This waiver shall become permanent if not appealed within thirty days after this date."

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order R-435, Docket No. TS-941485, filed 10/18/95, effective 11/18/95)

WAC 480-51-060 Temporary certificates. (1) The commission may issue temporary certificates for authority to provide service for a period not to exceed one hundred eighty days.

(2) The commission shall not issue a temporary certificate to operate on a route for which a certificate has been issued or for which an application is pending.

(3) The commission shall only issue temporary certificates upon finding that the issuance is due to an urgent and immediate need and is otherwise consistent with the public interest. In determining whether to grant the requested temporary certificate, the commission will consider evidence of the following factors:

(a) An immediate and urgent need for the requested service;

(b) Any available service capable of meeting the need;

(c) The fitness of the applicant; and

(d) Any other circumstance indicating that a grant of temporary authority is consistent with the public interest.

(4) An application for a temporary certificate shall be completed legibly on a form furnished by the commission, giving all information requested and accompanied by:

(a) The application fee;

(b) A copy of a certificate or letter from the United

States Coast Guard certifying that any vessel to be used under that temporary certificate has been inspected by the United States Coast Guard and is safe and seaworthy for the intended operation;

(c) Evidence of proper insurance as required by WAC 480-51-070;

(d) Statements from potential customers, riders, shippers or interested parties demonstrating that there is an immediate and urgent need for the requested service.

(5) The commission shall send a notice of each temporary certificate granted, with a description of the temporary certificate's terms, to all persons presently certificated to provide service; all present applicants for certificates to provide service; the department of transportation; affected cities and counties; and any other person who has requested, in writing, to receive such notices. Interested persons may file a protest with the commission within twenty days after service of the notice. The protest shall state the specific grounds for opposing the application and contain a statement of the interest of the protestant in the proceeding.

(6) The commission may grant or deny the protest without hearing. The commission may, in its discretion, on the application of a party, or on its own motion, order a brief adjudicative proceeding on the protest. WAC (~~480-09-500~~) 480-07-610 governs applications for and procedures in brief adjudicative proceedings.

(7) The commission may impose special terms and conditions in connection with the grant of any temporary certificate.

(8) If the holder of temporary authority files a valid application for parallel permanent certificated authority within thirty days after the grant of temporary authority, that temporary authority shall continue in force until the commission grants or denies the application for the permanent certificate authority, or until the temporary certificate is otherwise cancelled pursuant to law, whichever occurs first.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order R-435, Docket No. TS-941485, filed 10/18/95, effective 11/18/95)

WAC 480-51-120 Failure to initiate service--Extensions of time to initiate service--Progress reports. (1) Progress reports.

(a) If a certificate holder has not initiated service to all or any portion of the route or routes granted in its certificate, the certificate holder must, during the first five

years after obtaining the certificate, and during each twelve-month extension period granted by the commission, file written progress reports with the commission every six months after the certificate is granted.

(b) For purposes of these rules the following definitions shall apply:

(i) The term "portion of a route or routes" means service to any named point or points along a route, and service between two or more points named in a certificated commercial ferry certificate; and

(ii) The term "initiating service" means providing regular, ongoing service to all points and between all points granted in a certificated commercial ferry certificate.

(c) Progress reports must include a statement of progress toward overcoming impediments to initiating service, including, but not limited to, the following information: The progress of environmental impact, parking, local government land use, docking, and financial considerations, the purchase or lease of a vessel or vessels, hiring of employees, advertising, and the ability to handle proposed traffic.

(2) **Extensions of time to initiate service.**

(a) If a certificate holder has not initiated all or any portion of the route or routes granted in its certificate during the first five years after obtaining the certificate, the certificate holder may petition the commission to extend the certificate on a twelve-month basis for up to three years.

(b) If a certificate holder obtained its certificate prior to July 25, 1993, and is not providing service on all or any portion of the route or routes granted in its certificate during the first five years after obtaining its certificate, and has not initiated service during the three-year extension period discussed above in (a) of this subsection, the certificate holder may petition the commission to extend its certificate on a twelve-month basis for up to an additional two years.

(c) The term "providing service" means operating to all points and between all points granted in a certificate by the commission. In determining whether a certificated commercial ferry which operates in on-call service, such as launch service or service to flag stops, is providing service, the commission shall consider whether the certificated commercial ferry is ready, willing, and able to provide the service when requested, and makes a reasonable effort to obtain traffic.

(d) For purposes of these rules, the term "not providing service on all or any portion of the route or routes" does not include:

(i) Service discontinued by grant of the commission under WAC 480-51-130; or

(ii) Temporary interruptions of regular service reported promptly to the commission in accordance with WAC 480-51-140.

(e) In determining whether to grant an extension of time in which to initiate service, the commission will consider whether:

(i) The certificate holder has submitted timely progress reports during the first five years after obtaining the certificate and during any extension period; and

(ii) The progress reports indicate significant advancement toward initiating service.

(3) **Failure to initiate service.** Certificates, or portions thereof, are subject to cancellation, alteration or amendment by the commission under the provisions of RCW 81.84.060(1) if:

(a) A certificate holder has not initiated all or a portion of the route or routes granted in its certificate during the first five years after obtaining its certificate, and has not submitted timely progress reports to the commission as required in RCW 81.84.010(2);

(b) The commission has denied a certificate holder's request for an extension of time to initiate service and the certificate holder has not initiated service within thirty days of the denial; or

(c) A certificate holder has not initiated all or a portion of the route or routes granted before the expiration of any extensions of time to initiate service, and the certificate holder has not timely filed for an additional extension.

(4) **Petitions for extension of time to initiate service.**

(a) A certificate holder must file a petition with the commission seeking an extension of time to initiate service no later than ninety days prior to:

(i) The date upon which the five-year period following the grant of the certificate expires; or

(ii) The date upon which the current twelve-month extension period expires.

(b) Petitions for extension of time to initiate service shall be legibly prepared on forms to be furnished by the commission, giving all information requested.

(c) The commission may grant or deny petitions for extension without hearing. The grant or denial of extensions will be issued by letter of the secretary of the commission. A certificate holder aggrieved by the denial of an extension petition may seek review of the denial by filing a request for review of the decision within twenty days after service of the letter notifying the certificate holder of the denial. Within thirty days after receipt of the request for review, the commission shall schedule an adjudicative proceeding, and provide at least twenty days notice of the proceeding to the certificate holder requesting review. The commission may, in its own discretion, on the request of the aggrieved certificate holder, or on its own motion, order a brief adjudicative proceeding on the petition. WAC ((~~480-09-500~~)) 480-07-610 governs applications for and procedures in brief adjudicative

proceedings.