

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

August 9, 2007

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS (Due by Friday, September 7, 2007)

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP (Scheduled for Friday, September 7, 2007)

RE: In the Matter of Developing a Survey to Identify Factors Preventing the Widespread Availability and Use of Broadband Technologies; Docket UT-070986

The 2007-09 state government omnibus operating budget [SHB 1128, Section 149(3)] provides funding in the amount of \$160,000 to the Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) for a survey to identify factors preventing the widespread availability and use of broadband technologies. The budget calls for the Commission to report its findings to the appropriate House and Senate committees by December 31, 2007. To obtain stakeholder input regarding the scope, design and content of the survey, the Commission issues this notice to interested persons, calling for written comments and setting a workshop date.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Written comments may be submitted to the Commission by filing with the Commission Secretary either by electronic transmission or by mail as described below, or by physical delivery to 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7250, no later than **Friday**, **September 7**, **2007**.

We encourage you to discuss in your written comments the scope, design and content of a survey to identify factors preventing the widespread availability and use of broadband technologies, including but not limited to collecting and interpreting reliable geographic, demographic, cultural and telecommunications technology information to identify broadband disparities in the state. We value your suggestions on these topics.

WRITTEN COMMENT FILING GUIDELINES

The Commission requests that you provide comments in electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate quotations from the comments. You may send comments to the Commission's Records Center

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via the Commission's Web portal <u>www.wutc.wa.gov/e-filing</u> or by electronic mail to <u>records@utc.wa.gov</u>. Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (UT-070986)
- The commenting party's name
- The title and date of the comment or comments

If you are unable to file your comments electronically, the Commission will accept a paper document mailed to the following address:

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

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

The Commission will also convene a workshop to discuss the scope, design and content of a survey to identify factors preventing the widespread availability and use of broadband technologies on Friday, September 7, from 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM in Room 206 at the Commission's headquarters, located in the Richard Hemstad Building:

1300 South Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

The purpose of this workshop will be to explore, in an informal setting, the scope, design and content of a survey to identify factors preventing the widespread availability and use of broadband technologies, including but not limited to collecting and interpreting reliable geographic, demographic, cultural and telecommunications technology information to identify broadband disparities in the state.

If you cannot attend the workshop in person, you may arrange to dial into the Commission's conference bridge at (360) 664-3846. There are 25 lines available on a first come first served basis. You may reserve a line by calling Virgil Santos at (360) 664-1280. Because there are limited ports, please aggregate use to the extent possible.

Questions regarding this proceeding may be addressed to Wilford Saunders at the above address, (360) 664-1245, or e-mail at wsaunders@utc.wa.gov.

CAROLE J. WASHBURN

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Executive Secretary