



# Washington Movers Conference

of the Washington Trucking Associations

930 South 356th Street, Suite B  
Federal Way, WA 98003-6384  
(253) 838-1650  
1-800-732-9019  
Fax (253) 838-1715  
www.wmcmovers.com

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James R. Tutton, Jr.  
Executive Director

August 8, 2007

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

RECEIVED  
RECORDS MANAGEMENT  
07 AUG - 8 AM 11:09  
STATE OF WASH  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

Dear Ms Washburn:

The Washington Movers Conference is petitioning the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission for a proposed rate increase to the Maximum and Minimum rates and Charges contained in the current WUTC Tariff No. 15-B. The current WUTC Tariff No. 15-B Rates and Charges were last increased June 1, 2005 in accordance with WAC 480-15-490(2)(b)(ii)

The WMC requests the Maximum Rates and Charges contained in current WUTC Tariff No. 15-B be increased by 25 percent. It is understood that by current WAC rule 480-15-490 the Minimum Rates and Charges will be fixed at no less than 40 percent below the Maximum Rates and Charges. It is also understood that all current Tariff No. 15-B Fuel Surcharge Supplements will be eliminated.

Since the last increase in 2005, business and operational costs associated with the conduct of household goods relocations by regulated moving and storage companies continue to increase annually. Examples include, but not limited to –

- a. Employee wage and benefit packages
- b. Vehicle and equipment purchases and maintenance
- c. Cost of fuel and lubricants
- d. Appropriate advertising and vehicle markings
- e. Maintaining proper storage facility needs
- f. Cost of packing materials and associated furniture handling equipment
- g. Cost related to Federal and State road congestion, and
- h. State, County and City business taxes and fees, i.e. Regulatory Fees, Workers' Comp assessments, Unemployment Tax, City B & O Tax, etc.

Professional moving and storage companies, holding valid operating authority granted by the WUTC, provide an extremely valuable service to the relocating public in Washington State. It involves moving people and their precious belongings efficiently and safely requiring special talents, equipment and services. To maintain this professional service and combat the threats presented by the "rogue movers", strong consumer protection advocacy and reasonable economic regulation of the intrastate moving industry must be maintained. Granting this request will help meet those needs.

Should you need any further assistance from the WMC, please do not hesitate to contact me at (253) 661-8266 or by e-mail at [jim@wtassns.com](mailto:jim@wtassns.com).

Sincerely,

James R. Tutton, Jr.  
Executive Director