Service Date: December 5, 2025

STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. ● Lacey, Washington 98503

P.O. Box 47250 ● Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

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December 5, 2025

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(By Tuesday, January 20, 2026)
and
NOTICE OF WORKSHOP
(Set for February 23, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.)

Re: *Rulemaking to implement ESHB 1522*,
Docket UE-250777

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On December 5, 2025, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed with the Code Reviser a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) to engage in a Commission rulemaking required to implement Engrossed Substitute House Bill (ESHB) 1522 (Chapter 156, Laws of 2025 with relevant sections codified as Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 80.28.445). The Commission filed the CR-101 under Docket UE-250777.

The state legislature enacted ESHB 1522 and directed the Commission to adopt rules to implement relevant portions of the statute that address wildfire mitigation risks in the context of investor-owned electric utility operations. At minimum, the Commission's rulemaking must include the provision of workshops associated with wildfire mitigation plans, procedures and standards for vegetation management, fair market landowner compensation guidelines when appropriate, public safety power shutoffs and service restoration, pole materials, circuitry, and monitoring systems. Responses to the following questions would be most useful to the Commission in conducting its inquiry:

1. ESHB Section 2(3)(b) (codified as RCW 80.28.445(3)(b)) requires the Commission's rulemaking to address vegetation management (including landowner compensation), public safety power shutoffs and service restoration, pole materials, circuitry, and monitoring systems. Commission Staff is specifically interested in how the Commission should balance the need for flexibility in the very dynamic, very fast-changing area of wildfire mitigation

strategies and best practices while also meeting statutory requirements that the rulemaking address the specific list of topics in Section 2(3)(b) (codified as RCW 80.28.445(3)(b).

a. How do parties define each of the topics listed in RCW 80.28.445(3)(b)?

b. Are there other components that should be considered?

c. What role do each of those topics play in electric companies' current wildfire mitigation strategies?

d. In what context could a Commission rule address each of the items listed in RCW 80.28.445(3)(b)? Should the rules include substantive requirements for each topic, or describe the kind of analysis a plan or update should contain regarding that topic?

The Commission invites initial written comments in response to these questions and will conduct a workshop to address the relevant issues.

The CR-101, as filed with the Code Reviser, is available for inspection on the Commission's website at https://www.utc.wa.gov/casedocket/2025/250777/docsets. If you are unable to access the Commission's web page and would like an electronic copy of the CR-101 emailed to you, please contact the Records Center at (360) 664-1234.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-07-250(3), written comments must be submitted in electronic form, specifically in searchable .pdf format (Adobe Acrobat or comparable software). As provided in WAC 480-07-140(5), those comments must be submitted via the Commission's web portal at www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing. If you are unable to submit documents via the portal, you may submit your comments by email to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov or by mailing or delivering an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center on a flash drive, DVD, or compact disc that includes the filed document(s). Comment submissions should include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (Docket UE-250777).
- 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 certain alternative formats as described in WAC 480-07-140. If you have questions regarding this rulemaking, you may contact staff lead Brett Shearer by email at brett.p.shearer@utc.wa.gov.

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

In addition to filing written comments, interested persons are invited to attend a stakeholder workshop on **February 23, 2026, beginning at 9:30 a.m.** At the workshop, Commission staff will review and discuss comments with the stakeholders.

To maximize accessibility, this will be a hybrid workshop with in-person and virtual participation options.

In-Person Attendance:

The Commission will be open to the public for in-person participation **in Room 110 at UTC Headquarters located at 621 Woodland Square Loop SE, Lacey, WA 98503**.

Virtual Attendance:

To participate in the meeting using Zoom on a computer or mobile device, click here to join the meeting.[1] If you wish to be placed on the interested parties contact list, please contact the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov.

Interested persons not attending in-person may listen to the meeting via Zoom by calling +1 (253) 215 8782. and enter the Meeting ID: 886 8461 0349# and Passcode: 483887#.

Stakeholders will have further opportunity for comment. Information about the schedule and other aspects of the rulemaking, including comments, will be posted on the Commission's website as it becomes available. If you wish to receive further information on this rulemaking you may:

- Call the Commission's Records Center at (360) 664-1234
- Email the Commission at records@utc.wa.gov
- Mail written comments to the address below

When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket UE-250777 to ensure that you are placed on the appropriate service list. The Commission's mailing address is:

Jeff Killip
Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

[1] https://utc-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/88684610349?pwd=vP0vwcfqmgMrSBjti3wkjCiURQaNVj.1.

NOTICE

If you do not want to comment now, but do want to receive future information about this rulemaking, please notify the Executive Director and Secretary in one of the ways described above and ask to be included on the mailing list for Docket UE-250777. <u>If you do not do this, you might not receive further information about this rulemaking.</u>

Gaffey, Evan (UTC) Digitally signed by Gaffey, Evan (UTC)
Date: 2025.12.05 15:32:03 -08'00'

/s/JEFF KILLIP
Executive Director and Secretary
By: /s/ Evan Gaffey
Operations Director
Executive Director's Designee