



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
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August 20, 2018

NOTICE DECLINING TO EXTEND COMMENT DEADLINE

Re: Rulemaking to address electric and natural gas cost of service
Dockets UE-170002 and UG-170003

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On July 19, 2018, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed with the Code Reviser a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) to address cost of service studies for investor owned utilities in Washington. On July 23, 2018, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity to File Written Comments in these dockets by August 31, 2018.

On August 13, 2018, the Commission received a letter from the Public Counsel Unit of the Office of the Washington Attorney General (Public Counsel) requesting an extension of the August 31 deadline to file comments. Public Counsel explains that its expert has other workload commitments that will prevent Public Counsel from providing the thorough and comprehensive comments it believes these dockets require until September 18, 2018.

The Commission declines to extend the comment deadline. The Commission is sympathetic to the workload demands of Public Counsel's expert, but they do not outweigh the objective of timely proceeding with this rulemaking. Extending receipt of stakeholder comments for almost three weeks would result in even greater delays in the ability of Commission Staff (Staff) to analyze and synthesize those comments and prepare for additional proceedings in these dockets. Accordingly, the Commission continues to request comments by August 31, 2018.

Comments received by that deadline will be most useful and will receive full Staff consideration, but as in any other rulemaking, the Commission will accept stakeholder comments at any time. The Commission values Public Counsel's input and encourages it to submit comments as soon as possible after August 31 if it is unable to meet that deadline.

If you have questions regarding this rulemaking, you may contact staff lead, Elizabeth O'Connell, at (360) 664-1306, or by email at elizabeth.oconnell@utc.wa.gov.

MARK L. JOHNSON
Executive Director and Secretary