Service Date: April 6, 2020



STATE OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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April 6, 2020

NOTICE SUBSTITUTING PRESIDING OFFICER

and

NOTICE CONVERTING BRIEF ADJUDICATIVE PROCEEDING TO FULL ADJUDICATION AND SCHEDULING TELEPHONIC PREHEARING CONFERENCE (Set for Friday, April 17, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.)

RE: In the Matter of Determining the Proper Carrier Classification of Ridwell, Inc., Docket TG-200083

TO ALL PARTIES:

On March 5, 2020, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) entered Order 01, Order Instituting Special Proceeding; Complaint Seeking Classification; and Notice of Brief Adjudicative Proceeding (Order 01) against Ridwell, Inc. (Ridwell). Among other things, Order 01 determined that a brief adjudicative proceeding (BAP) was appropriate for resolving the issues in this docket, and set time for hearing oral statements before Administrative Law Judge Samantha Doyle on April 17, 2020, at 9:30 a.m.

On April 3, 2020, counsel for Ridwell contacted the Commission, requesting that the matter be continued. Commission staff (Staff) does not object to the request. Counsel for Ridwell further stated concerns about the need for additional process, including pre-filed testimony and post-hearing briefing.

The Commission agrees that its consideration of the issues in this proceeding would benefit from additional process and finds good cause to convert the BAP into a full adjudication. The Commission, therefore, reschedules the April 17 hearing as a prehearing conference (PHC). All

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parties indicated that this was acceptable in lieu of a continuance. Due to the ongoing public health crisis, the PHC will be held telephonically. To participate, you may call (360) 407-3810 and enter conference ID: **9524028**. You may also participate online through the Skype for Business application by using the following link:

https://lync.wa.gov/utc.wa.gov/meet/aldcalendar/12K3FDC0.

The Commission will hear this matter under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), particularly Part IV of Chapter 34.05 RCW relating to adjudications. The provisions of the APA that relate to this proceeding include, but are not limited to RCW 34.05.413, RCW 34.05.422, RCW 34.05.431, RCW 34.05.440, RCW 34.05.449, and RCW 34.05.452. The Commission will also follow its procedural rules in WAC 480-07 in this proceeding.

The purpose of the prehearing conference is to consider requests for intervention, resolve scheduling matters including establishing dates for distributing evidence, to identify the issues in the proceeding, and determine other matters to assist the Commission in resolving the matter, as listed in WAC 480-07-430.

INTERVENTION: Persons who wish to intervene should file a petition to intervene in writing at least three business days before the date of the prehearing conference. *See* WAC 480-07-355(a). The Commission will consider oral petitions to intervene during the conference, but strongly prefers written petitions to intervene. Party representatives must file a notice of appearance with the Commission no later than the business day before the conference. *See* WAC 480-07-345(2). Any party or witness in need of an interpreter or other assistance should fill out the form attached to this Notice and return it to the Commission. The Commission will set the time and place for any evidentiary hearings at the prehearing conference, on the record of a later conference or hearing session, or by later written notice.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That any party who fails to attend or participate in the prehearing conference set by this Notice, or any other stage of this proceeding, may be held in default under RCW 34.05.440 and WAC 480-07-450.

Due to internal scheduling conflicts, the Commission reassigns this matter to Administrative Law Judge Gregory J. Kopta to act as the presiding officer.¹

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE that the April 17, 2020, BAP in Docket TG-200083, set to begin at 9:30 a.m., is converted to a telephonic prehearing conference.

¹ Judge Kopta can be reached by email at gregory.kopta@utc.wa.gov or by phone at (360) 664-1355.

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THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE That Administrative Law Judge Gregory J. Kopta is assigned to act as the presiding officer in Docket TG-200083.

/s/ Rayne Pearson
RAYNE PEARSON
Administrative Law Director