

[Service Date May 26, 2010]

May 26, 2010

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP
(Scheduled for Tuesday, July 6, 2010, beginning at 9:30 a.m.)

RE: *Policy Statement to Review State Universal Service Policies,*
Docket UT-100562

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Universal service – the widespread availability of telecommunications services at reasonable rates – is a long-standing policy of the State of Washington. The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) plans a series of workshops to review and discuss state universal service policies, and potential changes that may be appropriate to preserve and enhance telecommunications service in the state. The workshops may result in a policy statement by the Commission, and potential recommendations to the Legislature. The first workshop took place on May 5, 2010, and consisted of a number of presentations by a number of stakeholders. Copies of the presentations are available on the Commission's website, www.utc.wa.gov.

The Commission invites stakeholders to the second workshop, scheduled for **Tuesday, July 6, 2010, beginning at 9:30 a.m.** The workshop will be held at the Commission's headquarters, Room 206, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington. At this workshop, stakeholders will continue to discuss changes affecting the telecommunications industry that implicate universal service in Washington, factual explanations of the scope of the problem, and potential changes to existing mechanisms or new approaches that should be considered for addressing universal service prospectively. In addition to a general round table discussion of universal service issues by stakeholders, the Commission anticipates scheduling two panels consisting of representatives from wireless carriers

and Washington consumers. The Commission will schedule additional workshops as may be deemed necessary.

To facilitate Commission evaluation of universal service policy in Washington and to facilitate discussion among interested parties during the second workshop, the Commission invites stakeholders to provide written comments on a series of questions contained in Attachment A to this notice. Parties are encouraged to address any or all of the questions posed herein and to express their position on any other issues related to the Commission's examination of universal service policies for Washington. Parties are specifically advised not to interpret or otherwise presume any order of importance or predetermination by the Commission of the appropriate course of action or policy that may be implied by the wording of any particular question or Attachment A as a whole. The deadline for submission of direct comments is no later than 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday June 16, 2010 and reply comments by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday June 30, 2010.

Questions regarding the workshop or this proceeding may be addressed to Brian Thomas, the Commission's telecommunications policy analyst, by e-mail at bthomas@utc.wa.gov or by calling (360) 664-1212.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. DANNER
Executive Director and Secretary