



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(360) 664-1160 • www.utc.wa.gov

April 23, 2014

NOTICE OF RECESSED OPEN MEETING
(To be held Thursday, May 29, 2014, at 1:30 p.m.)
And
NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(By 5:00 p.m., Thursday, May 22, 2014)

RE: Workshop on electric and natural gas utility low-income assistance program design, Docket U-140632

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) will hold a workshop regarding the benefits of different program designs for electric and natural gas utility low-income assistance programs at a recessed open meeting on **Thursday, May 29, 2014**. This workshop is intended to explore policy goals and program structures that may enhance or improve low-income assistance programs. At the workshop, the Commission will solicit stakeholder feedback on:

- What policy goals should guide the implementation of electric and natural gas low-income assistance programs;
- Which program design elements best support those goals;
- How to provide fair access if funds are insufficient to serve all eligible customers; and
- What lessons can be learned from low-income assistance programs in other states.

To better understand the elements of low-income assistance programs in Washington, the Commission requests that electric and natural gas utilities regulated by the Commission submit written comments to the Commission by **Thursday, May 22, 2014**, that include the following information:

1. A brief description of the company's low-income assistance program.
2. A description of how the company measures the success of its low-income assistance program.
3. The total number of residential customers in the company's service territory, an estimate of the total number of low-income customers in the company's service territory, and the number of customers participating in the company's low-income assistance program for each of the last five program years.
4. The number of customers who receive low-income assistance two or more years in a row, and the distribution of the number of years that assistance was received by those customers in each of the last five program years.
5. The number and proportion of low-income assistance customers who also receive low-income weatherization, and the total number of customers who received low-income weatherization in each of the last five program years.
6. A spreadsheet or distribution curve of the monthly energy usage of low-income assistance recipients.
7. Disconnection ratios for the past three years comparing total customer population with low-income assistance recipients. Please indicate the percentage of disconnected low-income assistance recipients whose service was restored because of low-income programs.

The Commission also encourages stakeholders to submit studies or descriptions of Washington utilities or utilities in other states that evaluate the effectiveness of various low-income program design elements.

RECESSED OPEN MEETING

The Commission will discuss these issues, comments and data provided, and will allow time for interested persons and stakeholders to provide feedback on the issues and ideas listed above at a recessed open meeting scheduled for **Thursday, May 29, 2014, beginning at 1:30 p.m.** at the Commission's headquarters, Room 206, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington. The Commission will issue an agenda for the workshop the week prior to the workshop.

WRITTEN COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

The Commission requests written comments and information in response to this notice. Written comments must be filed with the Commission no later than **5:00 p.m., Thursday, May 22, 2014.** The Commission requests that the responses be provided in electronic format to enhance public access, reduce the need for paper copies, and facilitate quotations from the submissions. You may submit comments via the Commission's Web portal at www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing or by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov. You must include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (U-140632).
- The commenting party's name.
- The title and date of the comment or comments.

An alternative method for submitting comments is by mailing or delivering an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center in Adobe Acrobat .pdf format or in Word 2010 or later, on a flash drive or CD. Include all of the information requested above. The Commission will post on its website all comments that are provided in electronic format. The website is located at www.utc.wa.gov.

If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a flash drive or CD, the Commission will accept a paper document. If you have questions regarding this Notice, you may contact Juliana Williams, by email at jwilliam@utc.wa.gov or by calling (360) 664-1311. When inquiring about the subject of this Notice, please refer to Docket U-140632.

STEVEN V. KING
Executive Director and Secretary