December 23, 2004

OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS ON PROPOSED RULES (By Wednesday, January 19, 2005) and NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION HEARING (Set for Tuesday, February 1, 2005, 1:30 p.m.)

RE: Rulemaking to consider Financial Reporting Rules Docket Nos. A-021178 and TO-030288

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

This letter is to inform you of the progress made toward adoption of revisions to the financial reporting rules. This letter also provides notice of an opportunity to file written comments on the proposed financial reporting rules and participate in the formal Supplemental Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Supplemental CR-102) rule adoption hearing.

On October 13, 2004, the Commission held a rule adoption hearing to consider revisions to the financial reporting rules. The Commission indicated that it would take the proposal under consideration. Subsequently, the Commission approved the filing of a Supplemental CR-102 that would revise sections in WAC Chapters 480-70 (Solid Waste and/or Refuse Collection Companies), 480-73 (Pipeline Companies), 480-90 (Gas Companies), 480-92 (Low-Level Radioactive Waste), 480-100 (Electric Companies), 480-110 (Water Companies), and 480-120 (Telecommunications Companies).

This supplemental proposal is intended to consider the changes to the rules listed in Attachment A to the Supplemental CR-102 <u>and</u> to renotice the entire proposal submitted at WSR #04-18-129 for comment by interested persons.

NOTICE is hereby given of the opportunity to submit written comments on the proposed rules not later than <u>5:00 p.m., January 19, 2005.</u> The draft rules, as filed with the Code Reviser, are available for inspection on the Commission's web site at www.wutc.wa.gov/021178. The Commission will send you a paper copy of the draft rules or will send the proposal via electronic mail, if you ask.

During the last two and one half years, the Commission held three stakeholder workshops and provided five opportunities for written comments from stakeholders regarding the financial reporting rules.

As a result of the input from the workshops and the written comments, the Commission has continued to refine the financial reporting rules. In view of the ongoing changes to the draft rules in this process, we ask that you submit a fresh set of comments that reflect all your concerns on the proposed rules. Please do not refer to previously filed comments. The only comments the Commission will consider regarding the proposed rules will be those submitted at this time.

In addition to any comments you may have, we are interested in additional comments you may have or those with professional expertise (e.g., bond counsel) may have on the two items listed below:

- 1. What are the consequences of providing information five days in advance?
- 2. Does disclosure to the Commission require disclosure to others?

Electronic copies. The Commission requests that comments be provided in electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate quotations from the comments. Comments may be submitted by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@wutc.wa.gov. Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (A-021178 or TO-030288)
- The commenting party's name
- The title and date of the comment or comments

An alternative method for submitting comments may be by mailing/delivering an electronic copy on a 3-1/2 inch, IBM-formatted, high density disk, in .pdf Adobe Acrobat format or in Word 97 or later. Include all of the information requested above.

DOCKET NOS. A-021178 and TO-030288

The Commission will post on the Commission's web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at http://www.wutc.wa.gov/021178. If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a disk, the Commission will always accept a paper document.

NOTICE is also hereby given of the opportunity to attend the public hearing and make oral comments about the Supplemental CR-102 proposal for the adoption of the proposed rules at 1<u>:30 p.m., Tuesday, February 1, 2005</u>. This public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Chandler Plaza, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W., Olympia, Washington.

Questions: Questions: If you have questions about this Notice, about the rulemaking process, or this rulemaking in particular, you may contact Sharyn Bate at (360) 664-1295 or e-mail at <<u>sbate@wutc.wa.gov</u>> or Fred Ottavelli at (360) 664-1297 or e-mail at <<u>fottavel@wutc.wa.gov</u>>.

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN Executive Secretary