

[Service Date August 8, 2003]

August 8, 2003

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(By Friday, August 22, 2003)**

**NOTICE OF WORKSHOP
(Set for Tuesday, September 9, 2003)**

RE: Draft Passenger (Bus) Transportation Company Rules
Docket No. TC-020497

TO INTERESTED PERSONS:

Commission Staff has completed a discussion draft of Passenger (Bus) Transportation Company rules to replace rules currently in WAC Chapters:

- 480-30, Auto Transportation Companies
- 480-40, Passenger Charter Carriers

Staff considered oral comments from the September 12, 2002, stakeholder workshop and written comments in drafting this rule proposal. The draft rules are available for inspection on the Commission's web site at www.wutc.wa.gov/020497. The Commission will send a paper copy of the draft rules or will send the proposal via electronic mail, if requested.

In addition to other changes, Staff proposes draft Passenger (Bus) Transportation Rules that:

- Combine WAC chapters 480-30 and 480-40 into a single chapter of rules.
- Define terms and incorporate decisions from Commission orders and court cases.

- Define requirements for application filings and hearings.
- Eliminate multiple certificates for charter and excursion service.
- State the Commission's compliance policy.
- Update minimum safety and insurance standards.
- Establish customer notice and complaint processes.
- Establish baggage liability limits.
- Clarify when free and reduced rates may be applied
- Simplify record keeping and reporting requirements.

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

We encourage your attendance and participation in the stakeholder workshop. The workshop will be held **Tuesday, September 9, 2003**, in Room 206 at the Commission's headquarters, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Free parking is available. The Commission's address is:

Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

If you need additional information please contact Bonnie Allen, Passenger (Bus) Transportation Company Rulemaking Team Lead, at (360) 664-1226 or e-mail at [<ballen@wutc.wa.gov>](mailto:ballen@wutc.wa.gov)

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Written comments on the Passenger (Bus) Transportation Company draft rules must be filed with the Commission no later than **Friday, August 22, 2003**. 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>](mailto:records@wutc.wa.gov). Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (TC-020497)
- 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 ½ inch, IBM-formatted, high-density disk, in .pdf Adobe Acrobat format or in Word 97 or later. Include all of the information requested above. 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/020497>>.

If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a disk, the Commission will always accept a paper document. The Commission's mailing address is:

Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Secretary