July 10, 2001

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS (July 25, 2001)

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP (August 2, 2001)

Re: Pipeline Safety Fee Methodology Rulemaking Docket No. UG-010522

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On April 26, 2001, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed with the Code Reviser a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) to initiate a rulemaking to establish the fee methodology to fund the pipeline safety program as required by Chapter 238 Laws of 2001. The Commission invites your comments on the proposed rule language adopted as an emergency rule on June 13, 2001.

Stakeholder Workshop. The Commission has scheduled a workshop to discuss the proposed rule language. This workshop, will be held on **Thursday, August 2, 2001, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**, in the Commission's Conference Room 108, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.

The purpose of this workshop is to discuss the rule language adopted as an emergency rule at the June 13, 2001, Commission open meeting. The rule language sets out in rule the methodology for collecting an annual pipeline safety fee from pipeline companies subject to the Commission's safety enforcement and inspection. The rule language is provided with this notice.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Written comments may be submitted to the Commission at the address given above and should be filed with the Commission no later than **July 25, 2001.**

Electronic copies. The Commission also requests, but does not require, that comments be provided in electronic format to facilitate quotations from the comments, to enhance public access, and to reduce the need for additional paper copies. Please help us by sending an electronic copy with your paper filing on a 3-1/2 inch, IBM-formatted, high density disk, in .pdf Adobe Acrobat format, reflecting the pagination of your original. Also send us the text in your

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choice of .doc (Word 97 or later) or .wpd (Wordperfect 6.0 or later) and include all of the following information on the label of the diskette:

- * The docket number of this proceeding (UG-010522)
- * The commenting party's name
- * The title and date of the comment or comments; and
- * The type of software used

Please use the three-letter extension noted above for all electronic files. You may also send your comments by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at <records@wutc.wa.gov>; if you choose this means of submitting comments, include all of the information requested above for the diskette label. The Commission will post on the Commission's web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at <htp://www.wutc.wa.gov>.

Opportunity for further comment is anticipated. Information about the schedule and other aspects of the rulemaking, including comments, will be posted on the Commission's web site as it becomes available. If you wish to receive further information on this rulemaking you may (1) call the Commission's Records Center at 360-664-1234, (2) e-mail the Commission at <<u>records@wutc.wa.gov></u>, or (3) mail written comments to the address above to the attention of Carole J. Washburn, Secretary. When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket No. UG-010522 to ensure that you are placed on the appropriate service list.

NOTICE

If you don't want to comment now, but do want to receive future information about this rulemaking, please notify the Secretary in one of the ways described above and ask to be included on the mailing list for Docket No. UG-010522. <u>If you do not do this, you will not receive further information about this rulemaking.</u>

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN Secretary