BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of Penalty Assessment Against MONROE TRANSPORTATION LTD, D/B/A CHINOOK CHARTER SERVICE, in the amount of \$4,100

DOCKET NO. TE-061282

COMMISSION STAFF'S RESPONSE TO CHINOOK CHARTER SERVICE'S MITIGATION REQUEST FILED OCTOBER 25, 2006

Pursuant to WAC 480-07-370(1)(c) and as set forth in Commission's letter to counsel dated October 31, 2006, Commission Staff submits this response to Chinook Charter Service's Statement of Reasons (Mitigation Request).

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On July 28, 2006, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) assessed a penalty of \$4,100 against Monroe Transportation Ltd, d/b/a/ Chinook Charter Service, (Chinook Charter) for violating Commission rules regarding driver requirements and vehicle safety. Chinook Charter initially requested a hearing, which Commission Staff (Staff) did not oppose. Subsequently, on October 25, 2006, Chinook Charter filed a mitigation request with the Commission and apparently withdrew its request for hearing.

For the reasons set forth in the attached declaration of Alan R. Dickson, Staff supports mitigation of the \$100 penalty associated with the flat tire violation but opposes mitigation of the penalties associated with any of the other violations.

DATED this 13th day of November, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

ROB MCKENNA Attorney General

JENNIFER CAMERON-RULKOWSKI Assistant Attorney General Counsel for Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission