



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 • TTY (360) 586-8203

March 1, 2017

RE: *In the Matter of the Penalty Assessment against Town and Country Tree Service*
Docket DG-160328

TO ALL PARTIES:

On April 18, 2016, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) assessed a \$1,000 penalty against Town and Country Tree Service (Town and Country or Company) for one violation of RCW 19.122.030. On May 10, 2016, Town and Country filed an application for mitigation and requested a hearing to explain the circumstances that gave rise to the violation. Following a brief adjudicative proceeding, the Commission entered Order 01, Order Denying Mitigation (Order 01) on June 23, 2016. Order 01 required Town and Country to either pay the \$1,000 penalty or file jointly with Commission staff (Staff) a proposed payment plan by July 7, 2016.

On July 13, 2016, Town and Country filed with the Commission a letter explaining that it was unable to reach an agreement with Staff regarding an acceptable payment schedule. Staff requested the Company pay the penalty over a period of six months; due to its financial situation, however, the Company explained that it could afford only to make payments of \$50 per month. The Company enclosed its first \$50 payment with its letter.

To date, the Company has made monthly payments of \$50 totaling \$450. The Commission does not typically accept payment arrangements absent an agreement from the parties, but in the circumstances presented here, the Commission will accept Town and Country's proposal to make payments of \$50 per month until the balance is paid in full. Accordingly, the Commission will not take action to collect the balance due on the penalty assessment in this docket provided Town and Country continues to make minimum payments of \$50 each month until that balance is paid in full.

Sincerely,

STEVEN V. KING
Executive Director and Secretary