

STATE OF WASHINGTON WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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May 9, 2011

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Dear Commentors:

This letter is provided in response to individuals who have commented on docket no. TV 110612. This is the household goods transportation application docket of Jason M. Nelson dba Parker's Moving Service. There are overlapping themes among the questions and comments submitted and this letter is intended to provide clarification of the issues based upon review and investigation by commission staff. The themes are below in bold with staff's response immediately following.

Commentors stated that the company does not have a Worker's Compensation Account with the state Department of Labor and Industries (L&I).

The company does have an account established with L&I. This is noted on the Master Business License. At the time that the company submitted an application, they did not have employees and were not required to have such an account.

Commentors stated that this company is not registered with the state Employment Security Department (ESD).

The company is registered with ESD. This is noted on the Master Business License. At the time that the company submitted an application, they did not have employees and were not required to have such an account.

Commentors stated that the company advertises incorrect rates and minimums in its advertisements and on its website.





Commission staff addressed these issues with the company on May 3,2011, and they have been corrected. The company owner is scheduled for new entrant household goods rule and tariff training on May 9, 2011.

Commentors stated that the company does not display its temporary household goods permit number in its advertisements and on its website.

Commission staff addressed these issues with the company on May 3, 2011, and they have been corrected. The company owner is scheduled for new entrant household goods rule and tariff training on May 9, 2011.

Commentors stated that the company does not have sufficient financial means to support its operations.

Commission staff investigated this issue and found the company's response regarding its resources to be adequate, given the start-up investments the company has made.

Commentors stated that the company's statements of support were weak.

Commission staff investigated this issue and found the company's statements of support to be sufficient.

A commentor questioned the permit status of Banner Moving, whose owner submitted a letter of reference for the applicant.

Banner Moving applied for a household goods permit on May 5, 2011.

Commentors questioned whether the company maintains adequate insurance.

The company has appropriate required insurance documentation on file with the commission.

Commentors stated that the commission should deny entry into the industry as it is "flooded" with moving companies.

The commission may not deny entry to companies that demonstrate that they are fit, willing and able to provide the service. The number of permitted carriers in the state today is 230, approximately the same as it was at this time in 2010.

Commentors expressed concern regarding a past conviction of a crime for this applicant. Commission staff investigated this issue using the State of Washington's online criminal record databases. This research showed the crimes in question are misdemeanors. Based on recent commission precedent (see docket no. TV 080054), commission staff do not believe this to be sufficient cause to deny the applicant a permit.

If a commentor believes that an issue is not adequately addressed in this response, I encourage them to contact me directly at (360) 664-1143.

Sincerely,

Sharon Wallace, Assistant Director

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Consumer Protection and Communications