



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
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November 4, 2015

NOTICE REQUIRING FILING OF STAFF REPORT
(By December 15, 2015)
AND
NOTICE OF HEARING
(Set for January 5, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.)

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Ride the Ducks of Seattle, L.L.C. d/b/a Seattle Duck Tours, Docket TE-151906*

TO ALL PARTIES:

On September 28, 2015, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) entered Order 01, Notice of Emergency Adjudication and Order Suspending Certificate (Order 01). Order 01 suspends Certificate No. ES-00146 to operate and provide excursion services held by Ride the Ducks of Seattle, LLC d/b/a Seattle Duck Tours (Ride the Ducks or Company) pending the results of a Commission staff (Staff) investigation and inspection of Ride the Ducks' entire fleet of vehicles, drivers, and operations.

On September 29, 2015, Staff filed a complaint alleging that Ride the Ducks has operated at least one of its vehicles, Duck 6, in an unsafe manner resulting in the incident on September 24, 2015. Staff alleges that Ride the Ducks has violated state and federal safety regulations and requests that the Commission suspend the Company's certificate until Staff has completed its investigation.

On October 1, 2015, the Commission conducted the hearing noticed in Order 01 and entered Order 02, Order Adopting Joint Stipulation and Continuing Temporary Suspension of Certificate. The Commission adopted the Joint Stipulation between Ride the Ducks and Staff that the Company's certificate would remain suspended pending Staff's comprehensive investigation and inspection of the Company's vehicles and operations. The Commission also gave notice that it would conduct a status conference on November 3, 2015.

On November 3, 2015, the Commission held a status conference to determine the extent to which Staff had completed or anticipated completing its investigation and to address related procedural issues. Staff described the status of its investigation and estimated that it would complete its final report by early December. Ride the Ducks stated that it would be prepared for a hearing on the issue of whether to continue the suspension within two weeks of the date Staff files its report.

The Commission requires that Staff file its investigation report by December 15, 2015. The Commission will hold an evidentiary hearing on January 5, 2016, to consider the report and to determine whether to continue the suspension of Ride the Duck's certificate to operate and provide excursion services.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That Staff must file the report on its investigation of Ride the Ducks' vehicles and operations no later than 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 15, 2015.

THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE That it will conduct an evidentiary hearing to consider whether to continue the suspension of Ride the Duck's Certificate No. ES-00146 on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, beginning at 9:30 a.m., in Room 206, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.

GREGORY J. KOPTA
Administrative Law Judge