## May 2, 2006

## **Upcoming Changes for Telecommunications Company Price Lists**

On March 30, 2006, the governor signed Senate Bill 6473, eliminating the use of price lists for competitively classified telecommunications services. The new law takes effect on June 8, 2006. Please visit <a href="www.wutc.wa.gov/telecom/pricelists">www.wutc.wa.gov/telecom/pricelists</a> for related information and links. If your company provides competitively classified services in Washington, you will not need to submit price lists to the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) after June 8.

The new law contemplates that instead of using price lists, companies will communicate with customers directly using a written contract or customer service agreement. You will be required to withdraw your existing price lists, and give your customers information about ongoing rates, terms, and conditions.

However, the new law will not affect tariffs or regulatory fees, and you will still be required to continue working with commission staff on consumer complaints.

The commission will accept new price list filings until June 7, 2006. After that, new price list filings will not be accepted and the commission will begin receiving notices of withdrawal. By June 30, 2007 you must withdraw existing price lists or petition for a one-year extension.

To implement this change in law, the commission has initiated a new rulemaking process in Docket No. UT-060676 to address pertinent issues such as the following:

- Waivers, if withdrawal of a price list would harm customers or competition.
- Opportunities for customers to accept ongoing offers when price lists are withdrawn.

Please watch for additional upcoming notices. As with all rulemaking at the commission, you will have opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the rules. If you have any inquiries or concerns you may e-mail Tom Wilson at <a href="mailto:tomw@wutc.wa.gov">tomw@wutc.wa.gov</a> or call him at (360) 664-1282.

Sincerely,

Carole J. Washburn Executive Secretary