## **BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE**

## **UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

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| In the Matter of the Petition of Talk America Inc.,  Petitioner,  Seeking Exemption from the Provisions of WAC 480-120-382 Requiring Competitively Classified Telecommunications Companies to File the 2008 Annual Report no later than May 1, 2009  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) | DOCKET UT-090640 ORDER 01  ORDER GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM RULE; GRANTING COMPANY ADDITIONAL TIME TO FILE ANNUAL REPORT |

## **BACKGROUND**

1. On April 30, 2009, (Talk America or Company), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition for an extension of time to file its annual report for as required by [WAC 480-120-382](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=480-120-382). According to , it is unable to prepare the report due to information not being readily available at this time. seeks an extension until May 5, 2009.
2. Commission Staff reviewed the request and recommended granting ’s request for exemption.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

1. (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate public service companies, including competitively classified telecommunications companies. [*RCW 80.01.040*](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=80.01.040)*,* [*RCW 80.04*](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=80.04) *and* [*RCW 80.36*](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=80.36)*.*
2. (2) is a competitively classified telecommunications company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
3. (3) is subject to [WAC 480-120-382](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=480-120-382), which requires competitively classified telecommunications companies to file an annual report no later than May 1 of each year.
4. (4) Under WAC [480-120-015](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=480-120-015), the Commission may grant an exemption from any rule in WAC [480-120](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=480-120), if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes. *See also* [*WAC 480-07-110*](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=480-07-110)*.*
5. (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting onMay 14, 2009 .
6. (6) After review of the petition in Docket by filed on , and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the exemption is in the public interest and is consistent with the purposes underlying the regulation and applicable statutes and should be granted.

## **O R D E R**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

1. (1) The request by , for an exemption from WAC 480-120-382 and for an extension until , to file its annual report is granted.
2. (2) Failure by , to file its annual report by , may result in the Commission invoking [RCW 80.04.405](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=80.04.405), which allows the Commission to assess penalties for violations of statute, rules and Commission orders.
3. (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and , to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Executive Director and Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective May 14, 2009.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Executive Director and Secretary