

[Service Date August 26, 2011]

August 26, 2011

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(By Monday, September 26, 2011)
and
NOTICE OF WORKSHOP
(Set for Tuesday, October 11, 2011, at 9:30 a.m.)

Re: Review Entry and Fitness Standards for Household Goods Carriers in
WAC 480-15, Docket TV-111493

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On August 24, 2011, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed with the Code Reviser a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) to consider revising the entry and fitness standards for household goods carriers in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-15. The Commission filed the CR-101 under Docket TV-111493.

Entry standards for household goods carriers are minimal. Applicants must properly complete the application, pay the fee, and provide proof of both liability and cargo insurance. Once these steps are completed, the Commission grants a permit. The existing rules may be insufficient, perhaps granting permits to applicants that are unfit to operate, such as applicants with inadequate operating capital, inadequate equipment, or criminal histories. This rulemaking will consider the need to set standards that allow qualified companies to obtain permits and, at the same time, protect the public from unscrupulous, unsafe, or unfit household goods moving companies. Entry and fitness standards are contained in Part 2 of the household goods carrier rules (WAC 480-15-180 through WAC 480-15-450).

The CR-101, as filed with the Code Reviser, is available for inspection on the Commission's website at www.utc.wa.gov/111493. If you are unable to access the Commission's web page and would like a copy of the CR-101 mailed to you, please contact the Records Center at (360) 664-1234.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Written comments on the proposal to review the entry and fitness standard rules, as well as changes commenters would like to see in the rules must be filed with the Commission no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, September 26, 2011. The Commission requests that comments be provided in electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate quotations from the comments. You may submit comments via the Commission's Web portal at www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing or by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov. Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (TV-111493).
- The commenting party's name.
- The title and date of the comment or comments.

An alternative method for submitting comments is by mailing or delivering an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center on a 3 ½ inch, IBM-formatted, high-density disk, in .pdf Adobe Acrobat format or in Word 97 or later. Include all of the information requested above. The Commission will post on its web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/111493>.

If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a disk, the Commission will accept a paper document. If you have questions regarding this rulemaking, you may contact staff lead, Vicki Elliott, at (360) 664-1119, or by email at velliott@utc.wa.gov.

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

In addition to filing written comments, interested persons are invited to attend a stakeholder workshop on **Tuesday, October 11, 2011, beginning at 9:30 a.m., in Room 206, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW, Olympia, Washington**. At the workshop, Commission staff will review and discuss comments with the stakeholders.

Stakeholders will have further opportunity for comment. Information about the schedule and other aspects of the rulemaking, including comments, will be posted on the Commission's website as it becomes available. If you wish to receive further information on this rulemaking you may:

- (1) Call the Commission's Records Center at (360) 664-1139
- (2) Email the Commission at records@utc.wa.gov
- (3) Mail written comments to the address below

When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket TV-111493 to ensure that you are placed on the appropriate service list. The Commission's mailing address is:

Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

NOTICE

If you do not want to comment now, but do want to receive future information about this rulemaking, please notify the Executive Director and Secretary in one of the ways described above and ask to be included on the mailing list for Docket TV-111493. If you do not do this, you might not receive further information about this rulemaking.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. DANNER
Executive Director and Secretary