



# PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

**CR-101 (June 2004)**  
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)  
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

**Agency:** Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

**Subject of possible rule making:** The commission initiates this rulemaking to consider amending existing rules and adopting new rules in WAC 480-120, telephone companies, and WAC 480-123, universal service, to implement the provisions of Second Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB 1971), enacted in the 2013 Second Special Legislative Session. Part II of the bill requires the commission to establish rules to implement a state universal communications service program. This rulemaking has been assigned Docket UT-131239.

**Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:**  
Second Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill (E2SHB 1971), Section 204; RCW 80.01.040(4).

**Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:**

Under 2E2SHB 1971, Section 203 (2) provides that the commission will implement and administer the state universal communications service program. The bill authorizes the commission to adopt rules by July 1, 2014, concerning:

- Operation of the program;
- Criteria for eligibility for distributions from the account, use of distributed funds, identification of reports to be filed with the commission,
- Disbursements from the universal communications services account,
- Benchmarks and other criteria to calculate distributions from the account, and
- An advisory board to advise the commission on rules and policies governing the operation of the program.

**Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:**  
None

**Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):**

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) The commission will ask for initial written comments, schedule one or more workshops, and will provide the opportunity to provide additional written comments on draft rules and proposed CR-102 prior to adoption.

**How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication:**

(List names, addresses, telephone, fax numbers, and e-mail of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.)

Interested persons may file comments with the Executive Director and Secretary, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, P.O. Box 47250, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington, 98504-7250; Telephone (360) 664-1174; Fax (360) 586-1150, email at [records@utc.wa.gov](mailto:records@utc.wa.gov), or through the commission's Web portal at [www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing](http://www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing) by **5:00 p.m., Friday, August 2, 2013**. For specific information regarding opportunities for written comments and to ensure receipt of further information concerning this rulemaking, please see the attachment to this form.

**DATE**  
July 3, 2013

**NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)**  
Steven V. King

**SIGNATURE**

**TITLE**  
Acting Executive Director and Secretary

**CODE REVISER USE ONLY**

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

**DATE: July 03, 2013**  
**TIME: 11:01 AM**

**WSR 13-14-122**

**WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**  
**CR-101 - ATTACHMENT**  
**DOCKET UT-131239**

Interested persons may contact the Executive Director and Secretary, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, P. O. Box 47250, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7250, 360-664-1174 (Fax: 360-586-1150).

**WRITTEN COMMENTS AND STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP**

The Commission has scheduled stakeholder workshop in this rulemaking for **Monday, July 15, 2013, beginning at 9:00 a.m.** in the Commission's Hearing Room, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW, Olympia, WA. Written comments may be submitted to the Commission at the address given above and should be filed with the Commission no later than **5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 2, 2013.**

Electronic copies. 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. Comments may be submitted via the Commission's Web portal at [www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing](http://www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing) or by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at [records@utc.wa.gov](mailto:records@utc.wa.gov). Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (UT-131239)
- The commenting party's name
- The title and date of the comment or comments

An alternative method for submitting comments may be by mailing/delivering an electronic copy 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 the Commission's web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/131239>. If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a disk, the Commission will always accept a paper document.

Opportunity for further comment is anticipated. Information about the schedule and other aspects of the rulemaking, including comments, will be posted on the Commission's web site as it becomes available. If you wish to receive further information on this rulemaking you may (1) call the Commission's Records Center at 360-664-1234, (2) e-mail the Commission at [<records@utc.wa.gov>](mailto:records@utc.wa.gov), or (3) mail written comments to the address above to the attention of Steven V. King, Acting Executive Director and Secretary. When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket UT-131239 to ensure that you are placed on the appropriate service list. Questions may be addressed to Brian Thomas, Senior Telecommunications Policy Advisor, by telephone at (360) 359-1049, or e-mail at [bthomas@utc.wa.gov](mailto:bthomas@utc.wa.gov).

## NOTICE

**TO CONTINUE RECEIVING NOTICES AND INFORMATION ABOUT THIS RULEMAKING** -- The Commission wants to ensure its mailings are sent to persons who are interested in the topic and want to receive that information. **ANY PERSON WHO COMMENTS** will continue to receive notices and information. If you do not submit comments but wish to remain on the mailing list for this rulemaking, please advise the Records Center by any one of the following methods: (1) send a note with your name, address (or a copy of your mailing label), and telephone and fax numbers referencing Docket UT-131239, and the words "Please keep me on the mailing list"; or (2) E-mail your name, address, telephone and fax numbers, referencing Docket UT-1312139, and the words "Please keep me on the mailing list" to <[records@utc.wa.gov](mailto:records@utc.wa.gov)>. Please note that all information in the mailings will be accessible through the Commission's Internet web site at <<http://www.utc.wa.gov/131239>>. **THOSE INTERESTED PERSONS WHO DO NOT RESPOND MAY NOT RECEIVE FURTHER MAILINGS OR INFORMATION ON THE RULEMAKING.**