Service Date: April 27, 2022

## BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Investigation of

OCTOPUS MOVERS SERVICES, LLC

For Compliance with WAC 480-15-555, WAC 480-15-560, and WAC 480-15-570.

**DOCKET TV-220274** 

NOTICE OF INTENT TO CANCEL

NOTICE OF BRIEF ADJUDICATIVE PROCEEDING; SETTING TIME FOR ORAL STATEMENTS (Set for June 6, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.)

- Pursuant to RCW 81.80.130, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) regulates the safe operation of motor freight carriers, including household goods carriers.
- Octopus Movers Services, LLC, (Octopus) engages in business as a household goods carrier under Commission-issued provisional permit number THG-068516.
- Between March and April 2022, the Commission's staff (Staff) reviewed Octopus's compliance with the requirements of WAC 480-15-555, WAC 480-15-560, and WAC 480-15-570, which adopt, among other provisions, Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 391, 395, and 396.
- During its compliance investigation, Staff documented 34 critical violations of the federal regulations incorporated into state law, 2 violations that would have been critical violations of those federal regulations with a larger sample size, and 1 critical-type violation of WAC 480-15-555.
- On April 14, 2022, Staff completed its investigation and notified Octopus that the investigation produced a proposed unsatisfactory safety rating for the company.
- Federal law incorporated into the Commission's rules prohibits motor carriers like Octopus from operating beginning on the 61st day after the date of the notice of a proposed unsatisfactory rating. A carrier may request a change in its safety rating based on evidence that the company has taken corrective actions to address the identified violations and that company operations currently meet the safety fitness standard specified in 49 CFR 385.5 and 385.7.
- Octopus must come into compliance with applicable laws by obtaining Commission approval of a safety management plan no later than June 13, 2022. If Octopus fails to come into compliance by that date, the Commission will cancel its household goods carrier permit effective June 14,

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2022. Octopus would thereafter be prohibited from engaging in the business of a household goods carrier.

- THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That it intends to cancel the permit and authority of Octopus to provide services as a household goods carrier effective June 14, 2022, for cause, following a hearing on the factual allegations set out above, unless Octopus obtains Commission approval of a safety management plan prior to that date.
- 9 Pursuant to RCW 34.05.482 and WAC 480-07-610, the Commission schedules a hearing on its own initiative and determines that a brief adjudicative proceeding is appropriate to determine whether the Commission should cancel Octopus's household goods carrier permit.
- THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE That it will hold a virtual brief adjudicative proceeding in this matter at 9:30 a.m., on June 6, 2022. To attend the hearing by telephone, please call (253) 215-8782 and enter the Meeting ID: 880 4935 6600# and Passcode: 631021#. To attend via Zoom, please use the following link: Click to Join Meeting.
- 11 The record in this case will consist of any documents regarding the matter that are considered by or prepared for the presiding officer for the brief adjudicative proceeding and a transcript of any oral statements given at the hearing, which statements will be given under oath.
- Written notice of any other stage in the proceeding or other formal proceedings that the Commission may deem appropriate will be given during the course of this case. The Commission will provide at its offices in Lacey, Washington, copies of documents in the current record for use by the parties or others who may want to review them.
- Octopus must submit its proposed safety management plan no later than 5 p.m. on May 23, 2022. Parties wishing to submit any other documents for consideration at the brief adjudicative proceeding must file with the Commission a list enumerating and describing any such documents no later than 5 p.m. on May 30, 2022, and email such documents to the presiding officer also by 5 p.m. on May 30, 2022. Filing shall be in accordance with WAC 480-07-140 and -145.
- THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE that any party who fails to attend or participate in the brief adjudicative proceeding set by this Notice, or any other stage of this proceeding, may be held in default under RCW 34.05.440 and WAC 480-07-450.
- The names and mailing addresses of all parties and their known representatives are shown as follows:

Commission: Washington Utilities and

**Transportation Commission** 

P.O. Box 47250

Olympia, WA 98504-7250

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Representative: Jeff Roberson

**Assistant Attorney General** 

P.O. Box 47250

Olympia, WA 98504-7250

(360) 664-1188

jeff.roberson@utc.wa.gov

Respondent: Octopus Movers Services, LLC

Alberto Moreno Mendoza, Governor and Registered Agent

3511 S. Ronald Drive, Seattle, WA 98118-5261

(206) 551-4706

octopusmoversservices@gmail.com

Administrative Law Judge Gregory J. Kopta, from the Commission's Administrative Law Division, will preside during this proceeding.<sup>1</sup>

DATED at Olympia, Washington and effective April 27, 2021

## WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

AMANDA MAXWELL Executive Director and Secretary

Inquiries may be addressed to:

**Executive Director and Secretary** 

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Judge Kopta can be reached at (360) 664-1355 or <a href="mailto:gregory.kopta@utc.wa.gov">gregory.kopta@utc.wa.gov</a>.

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## NOTICE

Hearings are accessible to persons with disabilities and persons who do not speak English as a first language. If limited English-speaking or hearing-impaired parties or witnesses are involved in a hearing and need an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

If you need an interpreter, or have other special needs, please provide the information requested below via email to Paige Doyle, paralegal, at paige.doyle@utc.wa.gov:

## (PLEASE SUPPLY ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION)

Docket:	
Case Name:	
Hearing Date:	Hearing Location:
Primary Language:	
Hearing Impaired (Yes)	(No)
Do you need a certified sign language interpreter:	
Visual	Tactile
Other type of assistance needed:	