December 22, 2004

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP

(Set for Tuesday, January 11, 2005, 9:30 a.m.)

RE: Pipeline Fee Methodology Rulemaking to Review WAC 480-93-240 and WAC 480-75-240, Docket No. P-041344

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On November 16, 2004, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) conducted a workshop on various options for a new pipeline safety program fee methodology. This workshop was conducted as part of the Commissions' process in its Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) calling for a review of the pipeline fee methodology in WAC 480-93-240 and WAC 480-75-240. The CR-101, as filed with the Code Reviser, and the various options presented at the workshop are available for inspection on the Commission's web site at www.wutc.wa.gov/041344.

In addition to taking comments at the workshop, interested parties were provided the opportunity to comment in writing. The Commission consultant, retained to review current rules, past practices, cost data and previously-stated stakeholder concerns, will soon provide his formal recommendations. These recommendations will be sent to you and be made available on the web page listed above by the end of December.

STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

We encourage your attendance and participation in the stakeholder workshop for purposes of reviewing the consultant's recommendations and for determining whether and how the Commission should move forward with rule changes necessary to affect next year's pipeline safety program fees. The workshop will be held on **Tuesday, January 11, 2005,** in Room 206 at the Commission's headquarters, beginning at 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Free parking is available. The Commission's address is:

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

If you cannot attend the workshop in person, you can arrange to dial into the Commission's conference bridge at **360-664-3846**. You may reserve a line by calling Ms. Kippi Walker at (360) 664-1139. You are also invited to provide comments in writing prior to the meeting for consideration at the January 11, 2005, workshop.

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 by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at <<u>records@wutc.wa.gov></u>. Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (P-041344)
- 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.wutc.wa.gov/041344>.

If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a disk, the Commission will always accept a paper document.

If you have questions about this Notice, about the rulemaking process, or this rulemaking in particular, you may contact Tim Sweeney at (360) 664-1118 or e-mail at tsweeney@wutc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,