



SERVICE DATE

APR - 9 1999

STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(360) 753-6423 • TTY (360) 586-8203

April 7, 1999

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(May 5, 1999)

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP
(June 3, 1999)

Re: Electric Companies - Rule making -- Chapter 480-100 WAC
Docket No. UE-990473

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is opening a rule making docket to review whether changes should be made to Chapter 480-100 WAC governing electric companies. The review is part of the Commission's overall review of its rules in compliance with Governor's Executive Order 97-02.

Governor Locke's Executive Order requires that agencies review significant rules for compliance with the following standards.

- 1. Need.** Is the rule necessary to comply with the statutes that authorize it? Is the rule obsolete, duplicative, or ambiguous to a degree that warrants repeal or revision? Have laws or other circumstances changed so that the rule should be amended or repealed? Is the rule necessary to protect or safeguard the health, welfare, or safety of Washington's citizens?
- 2. Effectiveness and Efficiency.** Is the rule providing the results that it was originally designed to achieve in a reasonable manner? Are there regulatory alternatives or new technologies that could more effectively or efficiently achieve the same objectives?
- 3. Clarity.** Is the rule written and organized in a clear and concise manner so that it can be readily understood by those to whom it applies?



DOCKET NO. UE-990473

April 7, 1999

Page 3

The Commission filed a CR-101, *Preproposal Statement of Inquiry*, and initiated review of Chapter 480-90 WAC, Gas Companies - Operations, on March 31, 1999. Since many of the existing electric and gas rules are identical, the Commission has decided to open the June 3, 1999 workshop to persons with an interest in the rules of either the electric and gas industry.

The Commission invites and encourages you to participate via written comments and/or attendance at the workshops. The Commission will post information about these rule making proceedings on its web site and mail information to anyone who indicates an interest. If you wish to receive further information on either rule making proceeding, you may: (1) call the Commission's records center at 360-664-1234; (2) e-mail the Commission at <records@wutc.wa.gov>; (3) send us written comments; or (4) attend any workshop. When contacting the Commission regarding these rule makings, please refer to Docket No. UE-990473, Electric companies, or Docket No. UG-990294, Gas companies.

NOTICE

If you do not wish to comment at this time, but would like to receive future information regarding this rulemaking, please notify the Secretary in the manner described above and request to be included on the mailing list in Docket No. UE-990473.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and participation.

Sincerely,



Carole J. Washburn
Secretary

Enclosures



**PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY
(RCW 34.05.310)**

CR-101 (7/10/97)
Do NOT use for expedited repeal or adoption

SERVICE DATE

APR - 9 1999

Agency: WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Subject of possible rule making:

Rules relating to Electric Companies will be reviewed for content and readability pursuant to Executive Order 97-02, with attention to the rules' Need; Effectiveness and Efficiency; Clarity; Intent and Statutory Authority; Coordination; Cost; and Fairness. All provisions currently codified in Chapter 480-100 WAC might be affected. The review will include consideration of whether substantive changes or additions are required.

Docket No. UE-990473

(a) Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:
RCW 80.01.040

(b) Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:

Executive Order 97-02 requires agencies to review significant rules with attention to the standards set out above. This includes reviewing whether current rules provide the results that they were originally intended to achieve and whether the rules are consistent with laws and with appropriate and lawful policies.

(c) Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:
FERC.

(d) 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, and will provide the opportunity for additional comments if substantial disagreements are reflected in the comments. The Commission will schedule workshops involving representatives of affected constituencies in a manner designed to develop consensus among affected interests regarding any rule proposal.

(e) 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 of persons to contact; describe meetings, other exchanges of information, etc.)

SEE ATTACHED.

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
CAROLE J. WASHBURN

SIGNATURE

TITLE
SECRETARY

DATE

04-06-99

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

CODE REVISER'S OFFICE
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

APR 7 1999

TIME 8:52

WSP 9908-105

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
CR-101 - ATTACHMENT
DOCKET NO. UE-990473

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 No. UE-990473, and the words "Please keep me on the mailing list"; or (2) E-mail your name, address, telephone and fax numbers, referencing Docket No. UE-990473, and the words "Please keep me on the mailing list" to records@wutc.wa.gov. Please note that all information in the mailings will be accessible through the Commission's Internet web site at <http://www.wutc.wa.gov/>. **THOSE PARTIES WHO DO NOT RESPOND MAY NOT RECEIVE FURTHER MAILINGS OR INFORMATION ON THE RULEMAKING.**