



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: This rulemaking would consider possible corrections and clarifications to selected sections of Chapter 480-93 WAC, "Gas Companies – Safety," rules governing natural gas pipeline operators, specifically rules that need to reflect changes in RCW Title 80 and 81 resulting from the passage of Substitute Senate Bill 5225 during the 2007 legislative session. The rulemaking has been assigned Docket PG-070975.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:

RCW 80.01.040(4), RCW 81.01.010, RCW 81.04.160, RCW 81.88.040, RCW 80.28.010(2), RCW 80.28.020, and Laws of 2007, ch. 142, § 1, § 2, and § 5.

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) has identified several rules that should be modified to reflect statutory changes in the 2007 legislative session. Chapter 480-93 WAC, governing gas safety rules, requires amendments to update definitions and provisions governing penalties. This rulemaking will modify most rules in Chapter 480-93 WAC.

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 comments, and will provide the opportunity for additional comments.

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

Interested persons may file comments with the 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; by facsimile (360) 586-1150, e-mail at records@utc.wa.gov, or through the UTC Web portal <http://www.utc.wa.gov> by Tuesday September 4, 2007. 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 26, 2007

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
Carole J. Washburn

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Executive Secretary

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

**Filed with the Code Reviser
July 26, 2007, 1:05 p.m.
WSR 07-16-060**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
CR-101 - ATTACHMENT
DOCKET PG-070975

Interested persons may contact the 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

Written comments may be submitted to the Commission at the address given above and should be filed with the Commission no later than September 4, 2007.

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 by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov. Please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (PG-070975)
- 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/070975>. 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, (3) submit your comments through the Commission's Web portal <http://www.utc.wa.gov> or (4) mail written comments to the address above to the attention of Carole J. Washburn, Secretary. When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket PG-070975 to ensure that you are placed on the appropriate service list. Questions may be addressed to Ilyne Lawson (360) 664-1302 or e-mail at ilawson@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 PG-070975, and the words "Please keep me on the mailing list"; or (2) E-mail your name, address, telephone and fax numbers, referencing Docket PG-070975, and the words "Please keep me on the mailing list" to 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/070975>. **THOSE PARTIES WHO DO NOT RESPOND MAY NOT RECEIVE FURTHER MAILINGS OR INFORMATION ON THE RULEMAKING.**