

Service Date: May 9, 2023



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503

P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

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May 9, 2023

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(By 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2023)

RE: Notice of Inquiry into Reducing the Administrative Burden in Support of the Commission's Ongoing Inquiry into the Adequacy of the Current Regulatory Framework, Docket U-210151

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On March 4, 2021, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) initiated an inquiry into reducing the administrative burden to review the recurring filings utilities are obligated to make with the Commission by statute, rule, or order. The Commission is interested in working with utilities and interested persons to determine which of these filings are no longer necessary or could be consolidated.

On March 15, 2021, the Commission issued a Notice of Opportunity to File Written Comments asking investor-owned utilities to complete a template with information regarding recurring filings required by statute, rule, or Commission order and to recommend an action for each filing. The Commission compiled the utilities' responses into a composite workbook and on April 27, 2021, issued a Notice of Opportunity to File Written Comments inviting interested parties to respond to the composite workbook and utility-recommended actions.

The Commission's regulatory staff (Staff) has reviewed the utility recommendations and interested party responses to those recommendations and has compiled a list of filings required by order that it believes can be eliminated or reduced in frequency.¹ That list – which also includes Staff's preliminary recommendation for each required filing – is provided as Appendix

¹ The Commission will seek comment on Staff's recommendations for WAC-required filings in a subsequent Notice.

A to this Notice. In addition to Staff's preliminary recommendations, Appendix A also identifies where an interested party's position on a filing (as indicated in earlier comments) differed from the recommendation now being offered by Staff and, where such differences exist, provides Staff's response to the rationale offered by the commenting party.

REQUEST FOR COMMENT

The Commission is seeking public comments on the preliminary recommendations offered by Staff on the filings identified in Appendix A. The Commission requests that for each filing identified in Appendix A commenting parties indicate whether they support, oppose, or have no position on Staff's recommendation. Where a commenting party opposes Staff's preliminary recommendation, the Commission requests that the party provide the rationale for its opposition.

For parties that previously recommended a position that, as indicated in Appendix A, differs from Staff's recommendation, please indicate whether you are amenable to Staff's proposal. If your position is unchanged and you are opposed to the action Staff recommends, please explain why Staff's response in Appendix A to the rationale you previously provided does not address your concerns.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Commission provides notice that interested persons may file comments in this Docket by 5 p.m. on Thursday, June 15, 2023.

Pursuant to WAC 480-07-250(3), written comments must be submitted in electronic form, specifically in searchable pdf format (Adobe Acrobat or comparable software). As provided in WAC 480-07-140(5), those comments must be submitted via the Commission's web portal at www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing. If you are unable to submit documents via the portal, you may submit your comments by email to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov or by mailing an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center on a flash drive, DVD, or compact disc that includes the filed document(s). Comment submissions should include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (Docket U-210151).
- The commenting party's name.
- The title and date of the comment or comments.

The Commission will post on its website all comments that are provided in electronic format. The website is located at <https://www.utc.wa.gov/casedocket/2021/210590>.

If you are unable to file your comments electronically the Commission will accept a paper document by mail.

If you need translated materials, please contact records@utc.wa.gov or call (360) 664-1234.

STAY INFORMED OF THIS PROCEEDING

Information related to this proceeding, including interested parties' comments, will be posted on the Commission's website as it becomes available. Persons filing comments in response to this Notice will receive future communications the Commission issues in this Docket. If you do not file comments but wish to receive such information you may contact the Commission's Records Center by telephone at (360) 664-1139 or by email at records@utc.wa.gov and ask to be included on the mailing list for Docket U-210151.

When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket U-210151 to ensure that you are placed on the appropriate service list. The Commission's mailing address is:

Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

If you have questions regarding the workshop or opportunity to comment, you may contact staff lead Chris McGuire at (360) 664-1310, or by email at chris.mcguire@utc.wa.gov.

AMANDA MAXWELL
Executive Director and Secretary