

February 12, 2003

Carol Washburn, Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: Washington Utilities and Transportation (UTC) Docket #TR-021465

Dear Ms. Washburn:

My office has recently been contacted regarding the UTC docket #TR-021465, a proposal recommending the use of "Remote Controlled Locomotives" in railroad operations. As the Pierce County Councilmember for District Two, I wish to express my concerns regarding this proposal.

It has been brought to my attention that the Federal Railroad Administration has failed to effectively regulate the use of this remote control technology to safeguard the citizens of Washington. Numerous accidents have been documented regarding the safety hazards of this technology. Therefore, I believe this proposal should be closely scrutinized.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written comments on the proposal. Please feel free to contact my office at (253) 798-6694 for additional information regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

CALVIN GOINGS
Councilmember
Pierce County Council