

[Service Date February 18, 2005]

February 18, 2005

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(By Friday, March 11, 2005)**

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE ORAL COMMENTS ON
DRAFT RULE PROPOSAL
(Set for 1:30 p.m., Thursday, March 31, 2005)**

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

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

Based on comments made at two workshops (November 16, 2004 and January 11, 2005) as well as written comments submitted by stakeholders, Commission Staff has prepared draft proposed rules that would change how the Commission assesses fees on pipeline operators to fund the pipeline safety program as required by RCW 80.24.060 and 81.24.090. The draft rules and proposed fee method description are attached and posted on the Commission's web site at www.wutc.wa.gov/041344.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Your written comments on the draft proposed rules will assist Staff in drafting its rule proposal for presentation to the Commission on March 31, 2005. Written comments on the attached rules should be filed with the Commission no later than Friday, **March 11, 2005**, and submitted to the Commission at:

Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

In submitting your comments, please state specifically your suggested changes to the rule and your reasons for those changes. Also, please indicate what economic effect this rule change might have on your customers, if any.

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@wutc.wa.gov. 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 3-1/2 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 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.

ORAL COMMENT

The Commission will hear oral comment on the draft rule proposal at **1:30 p.m., Thursday, March 31, 2005, in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Chandler Plaza, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.** If the Commission approves the proposal, it will file a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102) with the Code Reviser, and will notice the proposal for stakeholder comment.

Information about scheduling and other aspects of the rulemaking 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@wutc.wa.gov, or (3) mail written comments to the address above to the attention of Carole J. Washburn, Secretary. When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket No. P-041344 to ensure that you are placed on the appropriate service list.

If you have any questions regarding this rulemaking, please contact Tim Sweeney, tsweeney@wutc.wa.gov or by calling (360) 664-1118.

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Executive Secretary

Attachment