

[Service Date November 5, 2010]

November 5, 2010

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS ON
PROPOSED RULES**

(By Monday, December 6, 2010)

and

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION HEARING

(Set for Tuesday, January 4, 2011, 1:30 p.m.)

RE: Rulemaking to Consider Paperless Billing for Electric and Gas Customers
Docket U-100523

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On November 3, 2010, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102) in this docket with the Code Reviser regarding the possible adoption of proposed WAC 480-90-179 and WAC 480-100-179 and the modification of existing rules in WAC 480-90 (Gas Companies) and WAC 480-100 (Electric Companies) to address the use of electronic bills, notices of tariff revisions, and bill inserts by electronic means in lieu of paper copies delivered by U.S. Mail, and obtaining electronic permission for the disclosure of private information with the consent of the customer or other interested parties.

On April 7, 2010, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed with the Code Reviser a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) to consider the need to develop a new rule and/or modify existing rules in WAC 480-90 and WAC 480-100 to address the use of electronic bills, notices of tariff revisions, bill inserts, documents in adjudicative proceedings, and reports required by settlement stipulations.

On June 11, 2010, the Commission issued a discussion draft of electric and gas rules to all interested persons with a July 14, 2010, deadline for filing comments.

On August 9, 2010, as a result of extensive comments received on July 14, 2010, staff elected to circulate a revised draft as part of a revised CR-101 process filed August 4, 2010, with a September 10, 2010, deadline for filing comments. The Commission issued the revised CR-101 to consider whether to modify existing rules in WAC 480-90 and WAC 480-100 to allow utilities to obtain and retain a customer's authorization to share personal information electronically with the utility's affiliates, subsidiaries or any other third party for the purposes of marketing services or product offerings to a customer who does not already subscribe to that service or product. The proposed draft rules incorporate the comments that the Commission has received to date.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE of the opportunity to submit written comments on the proposed rules by filing with the Commission Executive Director and Secretary either by e-mail as described below, or by physical delivery to 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7250, no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, December 6, 2010. The proposed rules, as filed with the Code Reviser, are available for inspection on the Commission's web site at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/100523>. If you are unable to access the Commission's web page and would like a copy of the draft rules mailed to you, please contact the Commission's Records Center at (360) 664-1234.

Electronic copies: The Commission asks that you provide your comments 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. You may submit comments via the Commission's Web portal at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing> or by e-mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov.

In your comments please include:

- The docket number of this proceeding (U-100523).
- The commenting party's name.
- The title and date of the comment or comments.

Alternatively, you may submit comments 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. Please include all of the information requested above. The Commission will post on its web site all comments that are provided in electronic format. The web site is located at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/100523>. If you are unable

to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a disk, the Commission will accept a paper document.

THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE of the opportunity to attend the public hearing and make oral comments about the proposal for the adoption of the proposed rules at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 4, 2011. This public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.

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 a) call the Commission's Records Center at 360-664-1234, b) e-mail the Commission at records@utc.wa.gov, or c) mail written comments to the address below. When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket U-100523 to ensure that you are included on the appropriate service list. The Commission's mailing address is:

Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

If you have questions about this Notice, the rulemaking process, or this rulemaking in particular, you may contact Roger Kouchi. He can be reached by mail at the address on this Notice, by e-mail at rkouchi@utc.wa.gov or by calling (360) 664-1101.

Sincerely,

DAVID W. DANNER
Executive Director and Secretary