

[Service Date August 5, 2005]

August 5, 2005

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS
(By Friday, August 26, 2005)**

RE: Rulemaking to Consider Possible Correction and Changes to Selected Rules in Chapter 480-93 WAC, Gas Companies - Safety.
Docket No. PG-050933

TO INTERESTED PERSONS:

On August 3, 2005, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed with the Code Reviser a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) to consider possible corrections and changes to selected rules in Chapter 480-93 WAC, Gas Companies – Safety, specifically addressing WAC 480-93-005(18), WAC 480-93-017, WAC 480-93-178, WAC 480-93-200(1)(e), and WAC 480-93-200(6)(c). The CR-101, as filed with the Code Reviser, is available for inspection on the Commission’s web site at www.wutc.wa.gov/050933. If you are unable to access the Commission’s web page and would like a copy of the CR-101 mailed to you, please contact the Records Center at (360) 664-1234.

On May 5, 2005, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission completed a comprehensive review of its safety rules relating to natural gas pipeline operations. The safety rules in Chapter 480-93 WAC took effect on June 2, 2005. In the process of implementing these rules, stakeholders and agency staff have identified several concerns with the rules listed above. While these provisions seemed clear at the time they were drafted, they do not appear as clear now. This rulemaking will consider revisions to the specific rules identified above. The rulemaking will not address any major policy changes to the recently adopted rules.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Because this rulemaking addresses corrections or clarifications to recently adopted rules, and not major policy changes, the Commission requests comments only in writing. Written comments addressing: proposed changes to WAC 480-93-005(18), WAC 480-93-017, WAC 480-93-178, WAC 480-93-200(1)(e), and WAC 480-93-200(6)(c) and any other rules in Chapter 480-93 WAC for which stakeholders request clarification must be filed with the Commission no later than **Friday, August 26, 2005**.

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 (PG-050933)
- 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.wutc.wa.gov/050933>.

If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a disk, the Commission will always accept a paper document. Questions may be addressed to Sondra Walsh at (360) 664-1286 or e-mail at swalsh@wutc.wa.gov.

Your participation is welcomed via written comments. 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@wutc.wa.gov>, or (3) mail written comments to the address below. When contacting the Commission, please refer to Docket No. PG-050933 to ensure that you are placed on the appropriate service list. The Commission's mailing address is:

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

NOTICE

If you do not want to comment now, but do want to receive future information about this rulemaking, please notify the Secretary in one of the ways described above and ask to be included on the mailing list for Docket No. PG-050933. If you do not do this, you might not receive further information about this rulemaking.

Sincerely,

CAROLE J. WASHBURN
Executive Secretary