



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

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June 15, 2015

Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary  
Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Talton Communications, Inc.*

Commission Staff's Response to Request for Hearing UT-150846

Dear Mr. King:

On June 4, 2015, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket UT-150846 against Talton Communications, Inc. for 10 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-120-382), which requires telecommunications companies to furnish annual reports to the commission no later than May 1 each year.

On June 9, 2015, Talton Communications, Inc. wrote the commission requesting a hearing disputing the violation occurred. In its hearing request, the company states, "Talton Communications partners with Telmate. All revenue and billing pass through Telmate. Telmate filed this form on May 1, 2015. E-File ID: 2212. Filing documents attached".

It is the company's responsibility to ensure that the regulatory fee is paid and the annual report is filed by the May 1 deadline. On February 27, 2015, Annual Report packets were mailed to all regulated telecommunications companies. The instructions for annual report completion page of the annual report informed the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form, pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 1, 2015, to avoid enforcement action.

Talton Communications, Inc. was registered as a competitively classified telecommunications company under Docket UT-091952. The registration remains active. Talton Communications, Inc. has not filed notice with the commission to transfer assets to Telmate LLC or requested the registration for Talton Communications, Inc. be cancelled. In addition, Telmate, LLC filed notice of cessation of service in Washington under Docket UT-131214 which was allowed to become effective on July 11, 2013. While Telmate, LLC did file a 2014 annual report via online filing 2212, it was noted as the report for Telmate, LLC with no regulated revenues reported.

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Talton Communications, Inc. previously missed the deadline for filing its annual report and paying its regulatory fees for the 2013 reporting year. Due to the company's failure to notify the commission of any change to the registration of Talton Communications, Inc. and previous violation of WAC 480-120-382, staff does not support the company's request for hearing and would not support any mitigation of the assessed penalty.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Amy Andrews, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1157, or [aandrews@utc.wa.gov](mailto:aandrews@utc.wa.gov).

Sincerely,



Sondra Walsh, Director  
Administrative Services