June 30, 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. Cook, Thomas J. & Linda K.*

 Commission Staff’s Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties TE-151015

Dear Mr. King:

On June 9, 2015, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a $1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TE-151015 against Cook Thomas J. & Linda K. for 10 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 480-30-071 which requires charter and excursion carriers to furnish annual reports to the commission no later than May 1 each year.

On June 22, 2015, Thomas Cook wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties. In its mitigation request, Thomas Cook states, “Silver City Charter & Tours is no longer in operation as of 3 Nov 2014. Therefore no penalty will be sent”.

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 household goods carrier 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.

The company did not submit a request for voluntary cancelation of its operating certificate to the commission. However, staff recommends the penalty against Cook Thomas J. & Linda K. be waived as the company’s permit was cancelled under TE-143795 for lack of insurance on December 8, 2015, and the company’s notification it is no longer in operation per its penalty assessment response.

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

Sincerely,

Sondra Walsh, Director

Administrative Services