



STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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

(360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

June 22, 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. Eastern Pioneer Group, LLC*

Commission Staff's Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties TE-151018

Dear Mr. King:

On June 9, 2015, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TE-151018 against Eastern Pioneer Group, LLC 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 9, 2015, Eastern Pioneer Group, LLC wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties. In its mitigation request, Eastern Pioneer Group, LLC does not dispute the violation occurred. The company's response states, "This is our first year to report. We didn't receive any document from UTC. I think maybe the post officer delivery to the wrong suite". The company has requested the penalty be waived.

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 charter and excursion carriers. 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.

On June 16, 2015 commission staff emailed the requested 2014 annual report document to Eastern Pioneer Group, LLC. The company paid the required regulatory fees on November 10, 2014. Eastern Pioneer Group, LLC has been active since September 25, 2014. Staff does not support the company's request to waive the penalty. However, staff supports mitigation of the

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penalty as this is the company's first delinquent filing. Staff recommends a reduced penalty of \$25 for a total penalty assessment of \$250 subject to the completed annual report being submitted to the commission.

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