



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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July 15, 2016

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. Lile International Companies*

Commission Staff's Response to Request for Hearing TV-160625

Dear Mr. King:

On June 28, 2016, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$800 Penalty Assessment in Docket TV-160625 against Lile International Companies for eight violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-15-480), which requires household good moving companies to furnish annual reports, supporting documentation and the regulatory fee to the commission no later than May 1 each year, or in this case, May 2 as May 1 was a Sunday.

On July 5, 2016, Lile International Companies wrote the commission requesting a hearing disputing the violation occurred. In its hearing request, the company states, "...I show you received the documents on May 3, 2016." Lile International Companies provided a FedEx Tracking sheet that showed the annual report and regulatory fee was received by the commission on May 3.

It is the company's responsibility to ensure that the regulatory fee is paid and a complete and accurate annual report is filed by the May 1 deadline, or in this case, May 2 as May 1 was a Sunday. On February 29, 2016, Annual Report packets were mailed to all regulated household good moving companies. The instruction page informs the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form and pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 2, 2016, to avoid enforcement action.

On May 3, Lile International Companies submitted an incomplete annual report. On page 4, the intrastate and interstate operating miles was listed as unavailable. On page 5, the number of household good estimates for Total Washington and Intrastate fields was listed as unavailable. This is required information. On May 10, commission staff sent an email to Lile International

Companies that the annual report was incomplete and the information above is required. Lile International Companies provided the missing information via email on May 12.

Staff does not support the company's request for hearing as commission staff did not receive a complete and accurate annual report prior to the May 2 deadline and it is the company's responsibility to file a complete and accurate annual report. Lile International Companies became active in 1999 and violated WAC 480-15-480 with the 2012 and 2014 annual reports. The penalty associated with the 2012 annual report was reduced to \$200. The penalty associated with the 2014 annual report was paid in full. Typically, staff would not recommend a reduction of the penalty as the company has prior violations of WAC 480-15-480. However, the company attempted to file on time and quickly provided the requested information. Staff recommends a reduced penalty of \$50 per day for a total penalty assessment of \$400.

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

Sincerely,



Sondra Walsh, Director
Administrative Services