

## 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

July 21, 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. May Travel, LLC

Commission Staff's Response to Request for Hearing TE-160709

Dear Mr. King:

On June 21, 2016, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TE-160709 against May Travel, LLC for 10 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-30-071 and 480-30-076), which requires charter and excursion 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 6, 2016, May Travel, LLC wrote the commission requesting a hearing disputing the violation occurred. In its hearing request, the company states, "...I sent the annual report and fee in March., 2016. Please receive a copy of the 2015 Annual Report." May Travel, LLC provided an annual report for Sino-M International, LLC DBA Seattle May Travel.

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, or in this case, May 2 as May 1 was a Sunday. On February 29, 2016, Annual Report packets were mailed to all regulated charter and excursion companies. The instructions 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.

Staff does not support the company's request for hearing as commission staff did not receive May Travel, LLC's annual report prior to the May 2 deadline and it is the company's responsibility to file a complete and accurate annual report. May Travel, LLC provided an annual report for Sino-M International, LLC. On July 21, commission staff called the companies and confirmed they operate separately. As such, an annual report and regulatory fees for May Travel, LLC is due and outstanding.

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May Travel, LLC became active in 2014 and has no prior violations of WAC 480-30-071 and 480-30-076. This is the company's first delinquent filing. If the company files the 2015 annual report and pays the regulatory fee by August 5, 2016, staff would recommend a reduced penalty of \$25 per day for a total penalty assessment of \$250.

If you have any questions regarding this recommendation, please contact Sean Bennett, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1157, or <a href="mailto:sbennett@utc.wa.gov">sbennett@utc.wa.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Sondra Walsh, Director

Sondra Walsh

Administrative Services