



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 26, 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. Western Van Lines, Inc.*

Commission Staff's Response to Application for Mitigation of Penalties TV-160794

Dear Mr. King:

On June 28, 2016, the Utilities and Transportation Commission issued a \$1,000 Penalty Assessment in Docket TV-160794 against Western Van Lines, Inc. for 10 violations of Washington Administrative Code (WAC 480-15-480), which requires household good moving companies to furnish annual reports 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 12, 2016, Western Van Lines, Inc. wrote the commission requesting mitigation of penalties. In its mitigation request, Western Van Lines, Inc. does not dispute the violation occurred. The company states, "...we didn't receive any forms or packets from WUTC. After receiving the reminder notice, I filed the annual report and penalty (regulatory fee) on May 31, 2016.

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 household good moving companies. The instruction page informs the regulated company that it must complete the annual report form, provide the supporting financial reporting documents and pay the regulatory fees, and return the materials by May 2, 2016, to avoid enforcement action.

On May 31, 2016, Western Van Lines, Inc. filed a complete annual report and paid the regulatory fees owed.

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Western Van Lines, Inc. became an active company in 2002 and previously filed late for the 2004, 2005, 2011 and 2013 annual reports. Due to the history of violations, staff does not recommend mitigation nor a reduction of the penalty.

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