

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 • www.utc.wa.gov

November 20, 2015

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS ON PROPOSED RULES

(By Monday, December 21, 2015)

and

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE ADOPTION HEARING

(Set for Thursday, January 21, 2016, at 1:30 p.m.)

RE: Rulemaking for Corrected Bills, WAC 480-90-178 and WAC 480-100-178

Docket U-144155

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

This letter informs you of the progress made in this rulemaking docket concerning the possible adoption of new rules to address corrected bills. This letter also provides notice of an opportunity to file written comments on the proposed rules and to participate in the formal rule adoption hearing scheduled for 1:30 p.m., on Thursday, January 21, 2016.

On February 18, 2015, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) filed with the Office of the Code Reviser a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) to consider adoption of rules within WAC 480-90-178 and WAC 480-100-178 to establish common standards for all the regulated energy companies to identify and correct stopped meters and unidentified energy usage issues. The proposed rules would also provide incentives for companies to make appropriate resource allocation to reduce retroactive bill duration related to the forgoing circumstances.

It is reasonable to expect utilities to correct billing errors, identify and correct stopped meters, as well as unidentified energy usage, within a reasonable timeframe to minimize the bill amount generated to correct the billing or inaccurate energy usage metering.

On February 20, 2015, prior to drafting any revised rule language the Commission issued a notice of opportunity to file written comment regarding the need to revise WAC 480-90-178 and WAC 480-100-178. Comments were due on March 23, 2015, and the Commission accepted additional comments during a workshop held on May 20, 2015.

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On June 22, 2015, the Commission published informal draft revisions to WAC 480-90-178 and WAC 480-100-178 and issued a notice requesting responses to several questions and comments on the informal draft revisions. Comments were due on July 21, 2015.

On September 2, 2015, the Commission filed a supplemental CR-101 to consider expanding the rulemaking to all corrected billing situations. Comments on the supplemental CR-101 were due on October 5, 2015.

A summary of the comments submitted is available on the Commission's website. All documents submitted to, or issued by, the Commission in this matter are available on the Commission's website located at: http://www.utc.wa.gov/144155.

On November 18, 2015, the Commission filed a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102) with the Office of the Code Reviser. The Commission has reviewed comments from stakeholders received to date in this docket and has prepared proposed rules for review and comment by interested persons.

The proposed rules are available for inspection on the Commission's website at http://www.utc.wa.gov/144155. If you are unable to access the Commission's website and would like a copy of the proposed rules mailed to you, please contact the Commission's Records Center at (360) 664-1234. The CR-102 filing initiates the final part of the rulemaking process, which includes a written comment period, a public adoption hearing, and a decision by the Commission.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Commission gives notice of your opportunity to submit written comments on the proposed rules to the Commission by filing with the Commission's Executive Director and Secretary either by electronic transmission as described below, or by physical delivery to 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, Washington, 98504-7250, no later than **5:00 p.m., Monday, December 21, 2015**. The proposed rules, as filed with the Code Reviser, are available for inspection on the Commission's website at http://www.utc.wa.gov/144155.

Electronic copies: The Commission requests that comments be provided in electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate quotations from the comments. You may submit comments via the Commission's Web portal at http://www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing or by electronic mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov. Please include:

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- The docket number of this proceeding (U-144155)
- The commenting party's name
- The title and date of the comment or comments

An alternative method for submitting comments is mailing or delivering an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center on a flash drive, compact disk (CD) in .pdf Adobe Acrobat format or in Word 2010 or later format. Include all of the information requested above. The Commission will post on the Commission's website all comments that are provided in electronic format. The website is located at http://www.utc.wa.gov/144155. If you are unable to file your comments electronically or to submit them on a flash drive or CD, the Commission will always accept a paper document. The Commission's mailing address is:

Executive Director and Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 South Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

ADOPTION HEARING

The Commission gives further notice of your opportunity to attend the public hearing and make oral comments about the proposal for the adoption of the proposed rules at 1:30 p.m., on Thursday, January 21, 2016. This public hearing will be held in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W., Olympia, Washington.

Questions? If you have questions about this Notice or this rulemaking, you may contact Roger Kouchi at (360) 664-1101 or email at rkouchi@utc.wa.gov.

STEVEN V. KING Executive Director and Secretary