

## Kim Lowell, STA

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**From:** Cristy, Brian (DPU) <brian.cristy@state.ma.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 19, 2014 1:35 PM  
**To:** Kim Lowell, STA  
**Subject:** RE: Reiteration of Position Request

Hi Kim, the information contained in the referenced DPU memo remains valid. Regards, Brian Cristy

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**From:** Kim Lowell, STA [<mailto:office@Statewidetowing.org>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 19, 2014 8:39 AM  
**To:** Cristy, Brian (DPU)  
**Cc:** [bill@gogtt.net](mailto:bill@gogtt.net)  
**Subject:** Reiteration of Position Request

Brian,

Attached is a letter from you dated June 10, 1996. The letter addresses the question, "When does a vehicle stop accruing storage if a company is providing tow, storage and repair service?" With your response being, "Storage continues to accrue until such time as repairs begin or are authorized."

Recently an STA member was challenged by an insurance company as to the validity of the above. The insurance company requested proof that the DPU's position remained unchanged. Could you send STA a reiteration of the above position?

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Regards,

Kim

Kim Lowell  
Executive Director  
Statewide Towing Association Inc  
508.303.6699 Phone  
508.303.6697 Fax

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# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

### Memorandum

**TO:** Kim Dowell, President, Statewide Towing Association  
**FROM:** Brian F. Cristy, Director, Transportation Division *BFC*  
**DATE:** June 10, 1996  
**SUBJECT:** STA questions for Department of Public Utilities

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**Question 1:** When does a vehicle stop accruing storage if a company is providing tow, storage and repair service (Example: A tow company/auto body shop tows in an accident vehicle, stores the vehicle and will repair the vehicle; until what point in the process is the tow company entitled to charge storage.)?

**Answer:** Storage continues to accrue until such time as repairs begin or are authorized.

**Question 2:** Under what circumstances may a tower charge an indoor storage rate and what is the rate?

**Answer:** M.G.L. c.159B §6B establishes maximum charges for outside storage only. Section 6B states in part, "... shall apply only to lighted, outside storage facilities." No reference is made in M.G.L. c.159B to inside storage. Historically, the DPU has suggested tow companies get permission from police, owner or insurance carrier before storing a vehicle inside when the storage rate would be different from the maximum established in M.G.L. c.159B §6B.

"Ask the DPU" is a regular column in the newsletter featuring your questions answered by the DPU. If you have a question you would like the DPU to address, please call or fax your questions to the STA office.

(508) 303-6699

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