



King County

Solid Waste Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
King Street Center
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 701
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

206-296-6542
711 TTY Relay

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MELANIE TOLSON
GENERAL COUNSEL

June 21, 2006

Carole J. Washburn, Executive Secretary
Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission
Attention: Gene Eckhardt, Assistant Director
PO Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Dockets TG-060932 and TG-060933

Dear Ms. Washburn:

The purpose of this letter is to convey King County's support for extending Waste Management's Recycling and Revenue Sharing Plan for the period of July 2006 – June 2007. King County recommends that the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) allow Waste Management to retain the maximum thirty percent of revenues, allowed by statute, in both the SnoKing area and the South Sound/Seattle area.

In July 2005, Waste Management and King County co-signed Addendum 2 to Waste Management's original recycling plan. The addendum identified Waste Management's obligations for the July 2005 – June 2006 period. King County agreed to support continuation of the 30 percent revenue sharing for the July 2006 – June 2007 period, if the goals and program components specified in the plan were being achieved. We believe that Waste Management has satisfied the terms of the agreement, as specified in the addendum last year, and that the company's efforts have benefited and will continue to benefit recycling in King County.

In my position as the Solid Waste Division Director, I have been delegated the authority to make the certification as required in this statute. I hereby certify that the plan submitted to you by Waste Management, as amended in July 2005, is consistent with our local solid waste plan.

Results of the agreement during the 2005 – 2006 period include the following:

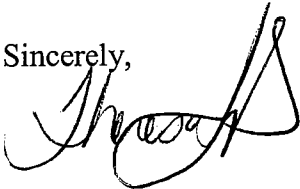
- In Fall 2005, single family customers in the SnoKing area were allowed to add food and compostable paper to their subscription yard waste service. In Spring 2006, this combined organics collection was extended to the South Sound and Seattle service area. Waste Management is working cooperatively with King County staff to develop and distribute promotional materials in the coming year.

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- In Fall 2005, Waste Management established a new tariff rate for 35-gallon cart organics service.
- Waste Management and King County staff have been working cooperatively to develop strategies to increase multifamily recycling participation and efficiency and reduce multifamily contamination problems. Based on the data Waste Management provides us, it appears that multifamily recycling levels have been decreasing. We expect implementation of this program to begin this summer and hope that it will help reverse this decline.
- Data reports on tonnage, customer counts, and commodity values from Waste Management have been timely and complete.
- Overall single family recycling rates showed a slight increase in the SnoKing area, and a slight decrease in Waste Management - South areas. The decrease may be in part due to the reduction in the urban (higher-recycling) customer base after Burien initiated contract collection. However, both areas showed a significant reduction in pounds of garbage disposed per household.
- Waste Management has developed an outstanding web site that provides all its customers in King County – both WUTC-regulated and contract – good information about the services available to them.
- Waste Management is an active partner in developing a new recycling campaign coordinated by King County that will be implemented later this year.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter of certification and recommendation for the extension of Waste Management's recycling plan. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Reed, Program Analyst, at 206-296-4402 or bill.reed@metrokc.gov.

Sincerely,



Theresa Jennings
Division Director

TJ:BR:mw
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