

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of Tariff Revisions to	)	DOCKET TG-131330
Increase Rates Due to a Disposal Fee	)	
Increase Filed by	)	ORDER 01
	)	
	)	
ZIPPY DISPOSAL SERVICE, INC.,	)	
	)	ORDER GRANTING EXEMPTION
Certificate No. G-121	)	FROM RULE
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On July 17, 2013, Zippy Disposal Service, Inc. (Zippy or Company), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to Tariff No. 17 that would generate approximately \$7,700 (0.9 percent) additional annual revenue to recover the increased cost of disposal fees. The Company serves approximately 1,900 customers in Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan Counties. The Company’s last general rate increase became effective on September 1, 2012.
  
- 2 On September 1, 2013, an agreement between Chelan County and North Central Recycle and Recovery, Inc., will increase disposal fees from \$22.46 per non-compacted yard to \$22.78 per non-compacted yard and from \$37.46 per compacted yard to \$38.54 per compacted yard at the North Chelan Transfer Station. The proposed rate increase would generate approximately \$7,700 (0.9 percent) additional annual revenue and become effective September 1, 2013.
  
- 3 A disposal fee increase falls within the definition of a general rate increase pursuant to WAC 480-07-505. WAC 480-07-520 lists the minimum required information the Company must provide in a general rate increase filing. The Company provided information pertinent to the disposal fee increase but did not provide the remainder of the information required by the rule and did not request an exemption from the work paper filing requirements of WAC 480-07-520(4).
  
- 4 WAC 480-07-110 allows the Commission to grant an exemption from or modify the application of its rules if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes. *See also* WAC 480-70-051.

5 WAC 480-07-370(1)(b)(i) states, in part, that the Commission may undertake an action  
that would be the proper subject of a party's petition, such as authorizing exemption from  
a Commission rule, without receiving a petition from a party.

6 Commission Staff reviewed the tariff request together with other factors and recommends  
the Commission allow the tariff to become effective by operation of law, and, on its own  
motion, grant the Company an exemption from WAC 480-07-520(4), work paper filing  
requirements for this filing for the following reasons:

- (a) There have not been any significant changes since the last rate case that became effective on September 1, 2012. Reviewing the rate case documents, customer numbers are relatively unchanged, inflation has been low, and the Company has not changed its collection methods.
- (b) The increased disposal fees are set by an agreement between Chelan County and North Central Recycle and Recovery, Inc., and are required as a part of the Company's operations.
- (c) The Company's financial information supports the proposed revenue requirement and the proposed rates.
- (d) Staff concluded the proposed rate increase, by reason of the increase in disposal fees, is fair, just, and reasonable.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

7 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the  
State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates,  
rules, regulations, practices, accounts and affiliated interests of public service  
companies, including solid waste companies.

8 (2) Zippy is engaged in the business of providing solid waste services within the state  
of Washington and is a public service company subject to Commission  
jurisdiction.

9 (3) Zippy is subject to the filing requirements of WAC 480-07-520, for general rate  
increase proposals. The Company did not file the work papers required by WAC  
480-07-520(4) and did not request an exemption from WAC 480-07-520(4).

- 10 (4) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 29, 2013.
- 11 (5) An exemption from the general rate increase filing requirements set forth in WAC 480-07-520(4) is in the public interest and is consistent with the purposes underlying the regulation and applicable statutes and should, on the Commission's own motion, be granted
- 12 (6) It is in the public interest to allow the revisions to Tariff No. 17 filed on July 17, 2013, to become effective on September 1, 2013, by operation of law.

**ORDER**

- 13 **THE COMMISSION ORDERS**, on its own motion, that Zippy Disposal Service, Inc., is exempt from WAC 480-07-520(4), for purposes of the tariff revisions filed in Docket TG-131330 on July 17, 2013.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective August 29, 2013.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Executive Director and Secretary