

The purpose of this e-mail is to provide comments from the King County Solid Waste Division on the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission document Discussion Draft #1, Rules Relating to Solid Waste Collection Companies.

We have only one comment related to the proposed rules, and that is to offer our support for proposed WAC 480-70-296, subsection (7) on page 50:

(7) A company must provide to each new applicant for service, and once a year to its current customers a list, brochure, newsletter or similar document that completely and clearly describes:

* All service options and service levels available to the customer;
and

* Methods and programs available to recycle and reduce solid waste. This material must include reference to available local commercial recycling options. The material provided to customers may be comprised of materials approved or supplied by local government solid waste divisions or solid waste coordinators.

This requirement could help raise customer awareness of options to reduce their service costs and take greater advantage of available recycling services. The Solid Waste Division would be pleased to work with haulers in King County to ensure that the information provided is accurate and complete.

Also, we note that Commission's rulemaking team found that issues related to rate design are policy issues that are not appropriate for this rulemaking project. We believe that some of these issues, as detailed in our April 27, 1999 comments to this docket, are of great importance. We urge the Commission to initiate a process for analyzing and discussing the policy issues that have been raised but not addressed in these rules.

Thank you for considering these comments on the proposed rules. If you have any questions, please call me at (206) 296-4385 or e-mail me at rod.hansen@metrokc.gov.