

FINDINGS

- 4 (1) Rural is a Solid Waste hauling company and is a public service company
subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 5 (2) The tariff revisions filed by Rural on July 31, 2001, would increase charges
and rates for service provided by Rural, and might injuriously affect the rights
and interests of the public.
- 6 (3) Rural has not demonstrated that the increased rates and charges in its tariff
revisions would result in rates that are fair, just, and reasonable.
- 7 (4) As required by RCW 81.04.130, Rural bears the burden of proof to show that
the proposed increases are fair, just, and reasonable.
- 8 (5) Allowing temporary rates subject to refund puts Rural on equal footing with
other regulated companies currently collecting tribal taxes. The legality of the
tribal tax is pending a decision in the existing complaint cases.
- 9 (6) After careful examination of the proposed tariff revisions filed by Rural on
July 31, 2001, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good
cause shown, the Commission finds that the proposed tariff revisions should
become effective September 12, 2001, on a temporary basis subject to refund.

ORDER

10 THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) The tariff revisions filed on July 31, 2001, are suspended.
- 12 (2) The Commission will consolidate this filing with the filings in Dockets
UT-010988 et al.
- 13 (4) Waste Management of Washington, Inc., d/b/a, Rural Skagit Sanitation may
be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the
Commission's investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment
are in accordance with the provisions of chapter 81.20. RCW.
- 14 (5) As required by WAC 480-70-271, Waste Management of Washington, Inc.,
d/b/a, Rural Skagit Sanitation must supply a notice to all affected customers
in the form and manner specified in WAC 480-70-271.

- 15 (6) Waste Management of Washington, Inc., d/b/a Rural Skagit Sanitation is authorized to implement and collect, on a temporary basis, the rates contained in tariff Supplement 2 in Docket TG-011084.
- 16 (7) That in the event the tax is deemed illegal, the carrier may be directed to refund or credit any tax collected. The carrier shall keep accurate and sufficient records to allow such refunds if such are ordered by the Commission.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 12th day of September, 2001.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner