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Paul Curl, Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250

October 7, 1992

Re: In the Matter of Determining the Proper Carrier Classification of: Enoch Rowland, dba Kleenwell Biohazard and General Ecology Consultants
Docket No. TG-920304
Our File No. 144-3

Dear Mr. Curl:

Enclosed please find an original and three copies of a Response to Petition for Administrative Review for filing on behalf of Intervenors Clark County Disposal, Inc. and Buchmann Sanitary Service, Inc.

Very truly yours,

CYNTHIA A. HORENSTEIN

SS

Enclosures

cc w/enclosures:

WUTC Regulatory Affairs Office

Steven W. Smith, Esq., Asst. Attorney General

James K. Sells, Esq.

Richard Finnigan, Esq.

James T. Johnson, Esq.

David W. Wiley, Esq.

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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of Determining the Proper Carrier Classification of:

Docket No. TG-920304

ENOCH ROWLAND, dba KLEENWELL BIOHAZARD AND GENERAL ECOLOGY CONSULTANTS.

RESPONSE TO PETITION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

COMES NOW, CLARK COUNTY DISPOSAL, INC. ("CCDI") and BUCHMANN SANITARY SERVICE, INC. ("Buchmann," or collectively referred to with CCDI as "Intervenors"), by and through their attorney, Cynthia A. Horenstein of Horenstein & Duggan, P.S., and respectfully reply to certain exceptions to the Findings and Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Initial Order set forth by Respondent ENOCH ROWLAND, dba KLEENWELL BIOHAZARD AND GENERAL ECOLOGY CONSULTANTS ("Kleenwell" or "Respondent"), as follows:

Exception A: Respondent asserts that "the testimony . . . makes it clear that doctors and dentists do insist that the disposal site be outside the state of Washington." However, Respondent cites no testimony in evidence to support this conclusion. Rather, as is cited at page 3 in the memorandum portion of the Initial Order, the testimony in evidence is that "[t]he doctors and dentists who generate the waste have no interest in where the ultimate disposal site is located and do not care whether the waste is shipped out of state for disposal or not." Tr. 57 and 84.

Exception B: Respondent claims that the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("Commission") may not regulate Respondent's interstate operations. However, the Initial Order is not proposing to regulate "the interstate operations performed by Kleenwell." Rather, the Initial Order properly notes that the "shipper's fixed and persisting intent at the time of shipment is determinative" of whether the traffic is interstate or intrastate.

Because Respondent has not pointed to any evidence that its shippers have any intent regarding the ultimate disposal site of the infectious waste, the local carriage from the shippers' offices to Respondent's warehouse in Des Moines is intrastate. The Commission has rightfully asserted jurisdiction over Respondent's transportation.

Exception C: Respondent accurately notes that whether commerce is intrastate or interstate is determined by the shipper's fixed and persistent intent. However, Respondent attempts to change application of this test by substituting its intent for that of its shippers' by claiming that it "makes the pickups at its customers' offices or clinics . . . with the full intention that the medical waste . . . will be transported to California for disposal."

Respondent claims that this is also the physicians' and dentists' intent. Yet, Respondent points to no evidence as to its customers' (i.e., the shippers') intent.

Respondent goes on to state that "the administrative law judge . . . failed to recognize that the intent with regard to each of these shipments is always that it move from a point in Washington to a point in California." Again, Respondent offers no evidence to support this conclusion.

Exception D: This exception goes to Respondent's failure to recognize that its collection of medical waste is an intrastate movement, properly regulated by the Commission.

Exceptions E and F: Substantial evidence was provided in this matter to support the finding that Chapter 81.77 RCW serves a legitimate public interest while not impermissibly burdening interstate commerce. The testimony of Wayne Turnberg clearly sets forth the need for state control of infectious waste through health and safety regulations. Professor Dempsey's testimony highlighted that state regulation of commodities with negative value ensures universal service to even rural generators at a reasonable rate.

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The effect of no regulation in this area would certainly pose a threat to public health and safety.

Respondent relies on Buck v. Kuykendall, 267 U.S. 307 (1925), and George W. Bush and Sons v. Molloy, 267 U.S. 317 (1925), for the holding that a state may not require a certificate of convenience and necessity from a carrier "engaged exclusively in interstate commerce" before it can operate within the state's borders. Respondent goes on to cite Port of Seattle v. Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, 597 P.2d 383 (Wash. 1979), for the proposition that the state's certification requirements for carriers cannot be applied to a common carrier "engaged in exclusively interstate commerce." However, Respondent fails to recognize that its transportation is not purely interstate. Even if the Commission does not view the Respondent's transportation as bifurcated between collection for disposal and the long haul (i.e., deems that Respondent's carriage is continuous), Intervenors defer to their post-hearing brief wherein there is detailed discussion supporting the position that Chapter 81.77 RCW serves a legitimate purpose which imposes only an incidental burden on interstate commerce.

Exception G: Respondent claims that the tests set forth in Pike v. Bruce Church, Inc., 397 U.S. 137 (1970), are not applicable "to this situation where we are dealing with a direct rather than an incidental burden on interstate commerce. The requirement of public convenience and necessity showing has always been treated as a direct, not an incidental, burden." However, Respondent does not cite any authority to support its proposition.

Exception H: Respondent provides no argument in support of its exception to the conclusion portion of the Initial Order and thus Intervenors rest on their post-hearing brief.

Exception I: As Respondent refers to the "countless federal
cases cited herein" in support of its exception, Intervenors rely on

their argument set forth in their post-hearing brief in response to this exception.

Exception J: Mr. Turnberg was established as an expert to testify on the potential health risks of exposure to infectious waste at the hearing. Tr. 121-23. As well, Intervenors reiterated several of these qualifications in their post-hearing brief. Mr. Turnberg was qualified to offer medical testimony. Note that this testimony was uncontroverted.

Exceptions K, L and M: These exceptions are merely reiterations of prior exceptions. Intervenors rest on prior arguments set forth herein as well as their post-hearing brief.

## CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth herein, Intervenors respectfully request the Commission approve the Initial Order as proposed.

DATED this 7th day of October, 1992.

CYNTHIA A. HORENSTEIN, WSBA #17830

Of Attorneys for Clark County Disposal, Inc. and Buchmann Sanitary Service, Inc.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I served a copy of the foregoing Response to Petition for Administrative Review of Clark County Disposal, Inc. and Buchmann Sanitary Service, Inc. on October 7, 1992, by mailing a copy contained in a sealed envelope, with postage prepaid, addressed to the following at their regular office addresses, to wit:

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Dated: October 7, 1992.

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