

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	DOCKET TG-020077
Complainant,)	
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
v.)	SUSPENDING TARIFF
)	REVISIONS AND GRANTING
Couse's Sanitation and Recycle, Inc.)	TEMPORARY RATES
G-169)	
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	
)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On January 23, 2002, Couse's Sanitation and Recycle, Inc., (Couse) filed with the
Commission Tariff 6 replacing Tariff 5. The stated effective date is March 11, 2002.
- 2 At the open public meeting of February 27, 2002, staff indicated that operational and
financial data has recently been received that will facilitate timely completion of the
review. Staff recommended that temporary rates be allowed to recover just the
increased disposal fees.
- 3 The filing would increase charges and rates for service provided by Couse. Because
those increases might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public, the
Commission suspends the tariff filing but will allow temporary rates to go into effect
to recover the disposal fee increase per RCW 81.77.160.

FINDINGS

- 4 (1) Couse 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 Couse on January 23, 2002, would increase
charges and rates for service provided by Couse, and might injuriously affect
the rights and interests of the public.

- 6 (3) Couse 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, Couse bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just, and reasonable.
- 8 (5) Allowing temporary rates allows Couse to recover the increased disposal fees as per RCW 81.77.160.
- 9 (6) After careful examination of the proposed tariff revisions filed by Couse on January 23, 2002, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds that the staff recommended tariff revisions should become effective March 11, 2002, on a temporary basis.

ORDER

10 THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) The tariff revisions filed on January 23, 2002, for proposed Tariff 6 are suspended.
- 12 (2) Couse's Sanitation and Recycle, Inc., is authorized to implement and collect the temporary rates relating to disposal fees filed in Tariff 5.
- 13 (3) That the rates and charges sought to be amended by filing TG-020077 shall not be changed by a subsequent tariff or filing, until this suspension proceeding has been disposed of, or, until the period of suspension and any extension thereof has expired, unless authorized by special permission of the Commission.
- 14 (4) Couse's Sanitation and Recycle, Inc., will 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.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 27th day of February, 2002.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner