

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of)	DOCKET NO. TG-030923
)	
WASTE MANAGEMENT OF)	ORDER NO. 01
WASHINGTON, INC.,)	
(SNO-KING) G-237)	
)	
)	
FOR REVENUE SHARING UNDER)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
THE PROVISIONS OF)	STATUTORY NOTICE AND
RCW 81.77.185)	REQUIRING REPORTING
.....)	

BACKGROUND

1 On June 11, 2003, Waste Management of Washington (Waste Management) filed with the Commission revised pages in Tariff No. 12 for its annual commodity revenue adjustment. The company also requested that the filing become effective July 1, 2003, by less than statutory notice. Waste Management stated that the reason for less than statutory notice is to recognize the change in the value of recyclable commodities since the last rate adjustment on April 1, 2002. As part of that filing, Waste Management submitted a Recycling and Commodity Revenue Sharing Plan for King County under the provisions of RCW 81.77.185.

2 The Recycling and Commodity Revenue Sharing Plan has been certified by the appropriate local government authority.

3 By December 2, 2005, the Commission must provide a report to the Legislature that evaluates:

4 (1) The effectiveness of revenue sharing as an incentive to increase recycling in the state; and

5 (2) The effect of revenue sharing on costs to customers.

6 In order for the Staff to determine the cost and effectiveness of revenue sharing,
it is necessary that the Company provide data and information on its recycling
and solid waste programs. The Company is required to submit:

- 7 (1) Copies of all waste composition studies and quarterly reports required by
the King County Recycling Plan.
- 8 (2) On a quarterly basis, multi-family statistics that include the tons of solid
waste disposed and recycle commodities collected and a count of multi-
family customers subscribing to each level of garbage collection.
- 9 (3) For each month in the quarter, the commodity sales revenue for each
product sold.
- 10 (4) On a quarterly basis, schedules detailing the costs associated with
implementing the Recycling Plan such as the expenses of conducting the
waste composition studies, switching to single stream recycling, adding
recyclable materials and adding food waste to yardwaste programs.
- 11 (5) Any other information that may be needed to evaluate the effectiveness
and cost of the programs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 12 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of
the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate
rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public
service companies, including solid waste companies. *RCW 80.01.040;*
Chapter 81.01 RCW; Chapter 81.04 RCW; Chapter 81.28 RCW and Chapter
81.77 RCW.

- 13 (2) Waste Management is a solid waste company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 14 (3) Waste Management is subject to the provisions of RCW 81.28.050 and WAC 480-70-266 requiring solid waste companies to file changes in any rate or charge with forty-five day's notice. For good cause shown, however, the Commission may allow changes without requiring forty-five day's notice by order specifying the changes to be made and the time when it shall take effect. *WAC 480-70-276.*
- 15 (4) WAC 480-70-051 provides that the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in Chapter 480-70 WAC, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes.
- 16 (5) Staff has reviewed the request in Docket TG-030923 and recommended the less than statutory notice request of Waste Management be granted. Staff further recommended the Commission grant an exemption to WAC 480-70-271 and require the Company to notify customers on their next regularly scheduled billing.
- 17 (6) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on June 27, 2003.
- 18 (7) After examination of the proposed tariff revisions filed by Waste Management on June 11, 2003, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revisions should become effective July 1, 2003.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 19 (1) The request sought by Waste Management of Washington, Inc., for less than statutory notice is granted.
- 20 (2) After the effective date of this Order, Waste Management of Washington, Inc., is granted an exemption from WAC 480-70-271, Customer notice requirements. Waste Management of Washington, Inc., shall notice customers on its next regularly scheduled billing.
- 21 (3) Waste Management of Washington, Inc., to provide quarterly reports as set forth above. Quarterly reports will continue until September 30, 2005. The reports will be forwarded to the Commission within 20 days of the quarter's end.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 27th of June, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner