

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET NO. TG-051235
TRANSPORTATION	)	
COMMISSION,	)	ORDER NO. 01
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
Yakima Waste Systems, Inc., G-89	)	
	)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
Respondent.	)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On August 15, 2005, Yakima Waste Systems, (Yakima or Company) filed with the Commission revisions to its currently effective tariff, designated as revisions to Tariff No. 19. The original effective date was October 1, 2005, and on September 28, 2005, that date was subsequently extended to November 1, 2005. The proposed revisions generally increase all rates and charges by 7.66 percent.
- 2     The filing would increase charges and rates for service provided by Yakima. Because those increases might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and Yakima has not demonstrated that the increases would result in rates that are fair, just and reasonable, the Commission suspends the tariff filing and will hold public hearings if necessary to determine whether the proposed increases are fair, just and reasonable.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 3     (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.*

- 4 (2) Yakima is a solid waste company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 5 (3) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 26, 2005.
- 6 (4) The tariff revisions filed by Yakima on August 15, 2005, would increase charges and rates for service provided by Yakima, and might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 7 (5) Yakima has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates that are fair, just and reasonable.
- 8 (6) In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in RCW 81.04.130, the Commission believes it is necessary to investigate Yakima's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of Yakima's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of Yakima's operations.
- 9 (7) As required by RCW 81.04.130, Yakima bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just and reasonable.
- 10 (8) Yakima may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 81.20 RCW.

## ORDER

### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) The tariff revisions filed on August 15, 2005, are suspended.
- 12 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 13 (3) Yakima Waste Systems, Inc., must not change or alter the tariffs filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 14 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Yakima Waste Systems, Inc.'s books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations as described above.
- 15 (5) Yakima Waste Systems, Inc., shall 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 26th day of October, 2005.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner