

14727-32nd Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98155

July 14, 1994

Nancy J. Stanton
Public Involvement Coordinator
WUTC, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W.
P.O.Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: ~~Disapproval~~ of rate increase by Eastside Disposal Company

Dear Nancy J. Stanton:

This is to acknowledge your letter of July 10, 1994 about a public meeting Tuesday, July 19, 1994.

My reason for writing is to let you know that I no longer have to be bothered, irritated and annoyed by Eastside Disposal, because I have found I can box my cans, glass, waste newspaper, junk mail, etc and haul it to the garbage dump myself,

Thereby avoiding being charged \$12 for changing the size of my cans, having my garbage half spilled on the street and not picked up either, having a rate increase every other time I get a bill, having all kinds of new taxes added all the time, etc.

I have successfully ended my problem with Eastside Disposal and their incorrect billing, and I pass the word to everyone I can, so keep up your crooked work with Eastside Disposal and see if you can fool all the people all the time.

Sincerely,

Dorathe Riebe
Dorathe Riebe

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STATE OF WASH.
UTIL & TRANSP.
COMMISSION



STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250
(206) 753-6423 • (SCAN) 234-6423 • TDD (206) 586-8203

July 10, 1994

RE: TG-940411

Dear Interested Person:

You recently expressed interest in a complaint filed by King County concerning the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission's (Commission) approval of a rate increase by Eastside Disposal Company.

A public meeting by the Commission will be held to receive public comments.

PUBLIC MEETING

**Tuesday, July 19, 1994
1:30 p.m.
Meydenbauer Center
11100 NE 6th Street Room 407
Bellevue, WA**

PARKING: There are 50 free spaces available, on a first come basis, three blocks from the Meydenbauer Center at the Bellevue Inn, 211 Main Street.

A final ruling on this case by the Commission is expected in late September. A press release issued by the Commission is enclosed for your information.

Thank you again for your participation in the Commission's process. Should you have further questions, please feel free to contact me at (206) 586-1137 or at our toll-free voice messaging system, 1-800-622-2967.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy J. Stanton".

Nancy J. Stanton
Public Involvement Coordinator

enclosure



News:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- July 6, 1994
TG-940411/No. 15

State to hold hearing on King County's objection to Eastside Disposal's garbage-rate hike

OLYMPIA, WA. -- State regulators will hold a hearing in Bellevue on July 19 to receive public comments on King County's objection to a newly structured garbage-rate increase for 22,000 customers of Eastside Disposal Co.

The public meeting by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) is scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday (July 19) in Room 407 of the Meydenbauer Center, 11100 N.E. Sixth St., Bellevue.

The three-member commission approved the new garbage-collection rates requested by Eastside on Feb. 9. The WUTC concluded that the fees more accurately reflect the company's actual costs of providing garbage and curbside recycling service.

Unhappy with the WUTC decision, King County officials asked the commission to overturn its approval of the new Eastside Disposal rates. The county maintains that the company's new rates remove financial incentives for customers who generate less waste by recycling. In a March 10 letter denying King County's appeal to reverse its Feb. 9 decision, the commission said Eastside's new garbage rates do encourage recycling.

The commission noted that under the company's new rate structure, residential customers always pay less to use minican (20-gallon container) and curbside recycling service than two- and three-can trash collection. For example, minican service runs \$9.65 a month for weekly trash and recycling pickup, while residential customers pay \$12.75 a month for two-can weekly service. Customers who opt for three-can weekly service pay \$15.80 in monthly garbage bills. All Eastside residential customers are charged for curbside recycling service, whether homeowners choose to separate their waste or not.

-- more --

WUTC WASHINGTON UTILITIES
and TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Public Affairs Section
Chandler Plaza
1300 Evergreen Park Drive S.W.
Olympia, WA 98504
(206) 753-6423

This news release is provided for informational purposes only.
Official Commission action is taken only by order.

For more information contact:

Marilyn Meehan
Public Information Officer

Press Calls: (206)753-4587

Customer Complaint and Inquiries:
1-800-562-6150

This news release is available
in alternate format by contacting:
(206)753-6447 or TTY (206)586-8203

In response, King County officials filed a formal complaint on March 23 against the WUTC's decision. King County wants Eastside to have a rate structure that charges customers a flat rate for one-can trash and curbside-recycling pickup, with the cost going up dramatically for each additional can.

The commission is required by state law to establish a rate structure that fairly distributes a trash company's rate increase to all residential and commercial customers using the garbage and recycling services. The WUTC also must set rates that protect consumers from any discriminatory practices while encouraging Washington residents to produce less waste by recycling more trash. It is the commission's responsibility to set service levels and regulate garbage rates for municipalities and unincorporated areas of the state's 39 counties.

In addition, the WUTC has questioned why King County has not sought legislative authority to change state law that would permit the counties to set their own rates for different levels of garbage service. Present state law allows cities, but not counties, to negotiate solid-waste contracts with trash haulers.

Eastside Disposal serves 22,000 Shoreline, Juanita and Northshore residential and commercial customers and other unincorporated areas of northeast King County, including the communities of Medina, Clyde Hill, Hunts Point, Yarrow Point and Beaux Arts. The company also has solid-waste contracts with Bellevue, Redmond, Kirkland and Mercer Island, but customers in those areas are not affected by the rate increase. The new garbage rates went into effect Feb. 15.

A final ruling on this case by the WUTC is expected in late September.

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