

Agenda Date: September 11, 2008
Item Number: B1

Docket: TG-081518
Company Name: Waste Connections of Washington, Inc., G-253

Staff: Nicki Johnson, Regulatory Analyst
Dennis Shutler, Consumer Affairs Specialist

Recommendation

Take no action on this filing at this time to allow for customer comments.

Discussion

On August 15, 2008, Waste Connections of Washington, Inc., (Waste Connections or company), filed with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) tariff revisions for garbage collection that would generate \$955,500 (5.38 percent) in additional revenue per year. The company serves approximately 55,500 customers in Clark County. The proposed rates are prompted by increases in labor, fuel, benefits and other general operating expenses.

Today's presentation allows customers or other parties to make comments to the commission concerning the company's proposed rates. No action is required by the commission. Staff will make its recommendation to the commission at the open meeting scheduled for September 25, 2008. The company's last general rate increase became effective in November 2006.

On August 29, 2008, the company notified its customers of the rate increase by mail. The commission has received one customer comment on this filing. The customer states that the company rather than increasing rates should look internally for solutions and tighten its budget.

Rate Comparison

	Present	Proposed
Residential Monthly Rates		
1 can weekly garbage service	\$12.21	\$12.91
2 cans weekly garbage service	\$17.73	\$18.74
Mini-Can weekly garbage service	\$9.64	\$10.19
Commercial		
One yard container service per month	\$80.22	\$84.76
20 yard drop box service per pick-up	\$111.00	\$114.87

Average Customer Charge Comparison – One Can Customer

Monthly Service	Present	Proposed
Garbage Component	\$12.21	\$12.91

In Clark County, the commission regulates only garbage rates. Clark County contracts with Waste Connections to provide recycling and yard waste collection.

Commission staff has not yet completed its review of the company's supporting financial documents, books and records.

Conclusion

Take no action on this filing at this time to allow for customer comments.