

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of

WASTE CONNECTIONS,
Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a
Peirce County Refuse,
Waste Connections of Oregon Inc. d/b/a
Sanitary Disposal, Inc.,
Harold Lemay Enterprises, Inc. d/b/a
Harbor Disposal and Eastern Gray's Harbor
Disposal,
Island Disposal, Inc.,
Murrey's Disposal Company, Inc. Tariff 29,
Waste Connections of Washington, Inc.,
Peninsula Sanitation Service, Inc.,
Harold LeMay d/b/a Pacific Disposal,
Butlers Cove Refuse, and Rural Garbage
Service,
Yakima Waste System, Inc.,
Murrey's Disposal Tariff 25 d/b/a Olympic
Disposal,
Mason County Garbage Co., Inc.,
Empire Disposal, Inc.,
Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc., d/b/a City
Sanitary, Joe's Refuse, White Pass
Garbage, and
Columbia River Disposal, Inc.

Petitioners,

For an Order Authorizing Less Than
Statutory Notice for 45 Day Notice to
Commission and for Customer Notice
Requirements.

DOCKETS

TG-250627, TG-250628, TG-250622,
TG-250634, TG-250629, TG-250631,
TG-250632, TG-250630, TG-250626,
TG-250633, TG-250639, TG-250637,
TG-250642, TG-250643, TG-250667,
TG-250702, and TG-250646

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DENYING PETITIONS FOR LESS
THAN STATUTORY NOTICE FOR 45
DAY NOTICE TO COMMISSION;
GRANTING PETITIONS FOR LESS
THAN STATUTORY NOTICE FOR
CUSTOMER NOTICE TO BE
APPLIED ON FIRST BILL

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BACKGROUND

1 In August of 2025, several affiliated Waste Connections companies (Waste Connections or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) petitions for an order authorizing less than statutory notice (LSNs) for (1) 45-day notice to the Commission and (2) customer notice requirements. The filings each relate to a statewide business and occupation (B&O) tax increase set to become effective October 1, 2025. The LSNs specifically request exemption from customer notice requirements pursuant to WAC 480-70-271(2)(a) and for the tariffs to become effective October 1, 2025. The Waste Connection companies which filed these requests, and the date on which they filed, are as follows:

August 20, 2025	Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc. dba Peirce County Refuse
August 20, 2025	Waste Connections of Oregon Inc. dba Sanitary Disposal, Inc.
August 21, 2025	Waste Control, Inc.
August 21, 2025	Harold Lemay Enterprises, Inc. dba Harbor Disposal and Eastern Gray's Harbor Disposal
August 20, 2025	Island Disposal, Inc.
August 20, 2025	Murrey's Disposal Company, Inc. Tariff 29
August 20, 2025	Waste Connections of Washington, Inc.
August 20, 2025	Peninsula Sanitation Service, Inc
August 21, 2025	Harold LeMay dba Pacific Disposal, Butlers Cove Refuse, and Rural Garbage Service.
August 21, 2025	Yakima Waste System, Inc.
August 21, 2025	Mason County Garbage Co., Inc.
August 22, 2025	American Disposal dba Vashon Disposal
August 22, 2025	Murrey's Disposal Tariff 25 dba Olympic Disposal
August 21, 2025	Empire Disposal, Inc.

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August 21, 2025	Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc., dba City Sanitary, Joe's Refuse, White Pass Garbage
August 26, 2025	Columbia River Disposal, Inc. (Tariff 8)
August 26,2025	Columbia River Disposal, Inc. (Tariff 13)

- 2 Commission Staff (Staff) has reviewed the LSNs for Waste Connections and agrees with Waste Connections that the historic practice has been to allow Waste Connections and others to notify customers of these changes on their first bills pursuant to WAC 480-70-271(2)(a), which avoids increased costs associated with printing and postage.
- 3 However, Staff recommends that to the extent the LSNs request the change in rates due to B&O tax increases become effective October 1, 2025, that the Commission deny those requests and that the Commission approve the tariff effective dates submitted by the various Waste Connections companies as filed.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

- 4 RCW 81.28.050 states, in part, that for “a solid waste collection company, a change [in rates] may not be made except after forty-five days' notice to the commission and to the public.” WAC 480-70-271(2)(a) provides that advance notice of a rate increase to customers for solid waste companies may be exempted, but that “[e]ach affected customer must receive notice on or with the first bill after the final commission decision when a company increases rates for ... local taxes...”
- 5 Here, the Company has petitioned the Commission to allow it to provide notice of the rate increases to customers associated with the increase to B&O taxes on customers' first bill. We grant that request as consistent with prior Commission practice and Commission rule.
- 6 The Company also appears to request an exemption from RCW 81.28.050 in its LSNs. However, we note that the tariffs submitted by the Company and the effective date of each tariff reflect compliance with RCW 81.28.050 and provide 45-days' notice to the Commission of the rate change.

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7 Accordingly, it is not entirely clear whether the Company meant to petition the
Commission for exemption from RCW 81.28.050. Regardless, out of an abundance of
caution, we interpret the Company's LSNs to request an exemption from statute, which
we deny.

8 The Company's tariff increase instead shall become effective on the date provided in
each tariff submitted, and as shown in Appendix A of this Order. Because the Company
submitted the correct effective dates in tariff, there is no need for the Company to submit
replacement pages to the Commission.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 9 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with
the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts,
securities, transfers of property, and affiliated interests of public service
companies, including solid waste companies.
- 10 (2) Waste Connections and its subsidiaries are solid waste companies and public
service companies subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 11 (3) RCW 81.28.050 states, in part, that solid waste companies must provide forty-five
days' notice to the commission before increasing rates.
- 12 (4) WAC 480-70-271(2)(a) provides solid waste companies may provide notice to
customers of increases due to changes in taxes on the customers' first bill after
commission decisions.
- 13 (5) The Waste Connections companies submitted petitions for less than statutory
notice, authorizing them to provide notice to customers of increases in rates due to
increases in the B&O tax and to increase said rates on October 1, 2025.
- 14 (6) The Commission should grant the Waste Connections companies' request to
provide customer notice on less than statutory notice on customers' first bills, but
should deny the companies' request to increase rates effective October 1, 2025.

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- 15 (7) The Commission should approve the rate increases due to the increase in B&O tax for each Waste Connections company consistent with the tariff effective dates submitted by the companies and as shown in Appendix A.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 16 (1) The Commission finds Waste Connections request to provide less than statutory notice to customers pursuant to WAC 480-70-271(2)(a) in these dockets is GRANTED.
- 17 (2) The Commission finds Waste Connections request for less than statutory notice to the Commission is DENIED, and the tariff effective dates shall correspond to those submitted by Waste Connections in each docket, as shown in Appendix A.
- 18 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over this matter for purposes of effectuating this Order.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective September 25, 2025.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

BRIAN J. RYBARIK, Chair

ANN E. RENDAHL, Commissioner

MILTON H. DOUMIT, Commissioner

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APPENDIX A

Docket	File Date	Company Name	Requested Effective Date	New Effective Date
TG-250627	August 21, 2025	Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc. dba Peirce County Refuse	October 1, 2025	October 5, 2025
TG-250628	August 20, 2025	Waste Connections of Oregon Inc. dba Sanitary Disposal, Inc.	October 1, 2025	October 4, 2025
TG-250642	August 21, 2025	Waste Control, Inc.	October 1, 2025	October 5, 2025
TG-250634	August 21, 2025	Harold Lemay Enterprises, Inc. dba Harbor Disposal and Eastern Gray's Harbor Disposal	October 1, 2025	October 5, 2025
TG-250631	August 20, 2025	Island Disposal, Inc.	October 1, 2025	October 4, 2025
TG-250630	August 20, 2025	Murrey's Disposal Company, Inc. Tariff 29	October 1, 2025	October 4, 2025
TG-250626	August 20, 2025	Waste Connections of Washington, Inc.	October 1, 2025	October 4, 2025
TG-250633	August 20, 2025	Peninsula Sanitation Service, Inc	October 1, 2025	October 4, 2025
TG-250622	August 21, 2025	Harold LeMay dba Pacific Disposal, Butlers Cove Refuse, and Rural Garbage Service.	October 1, 2025	October 5, 2025
TG-250629	August 21, 2025	Yakima Waste System, Inc.	October 1, 2025	October 5, 2025
TG-250632	August 21, 2025	Mason County Garbage Co., Inc.	October 1, 2025	October 5, 2025

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 TG-250637, TG-250642, TG-250643, TG-250667,
 TG-250702, and TG-250646**

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TG-250637	August 22, 2025	American Disposal dba Vashon Disposal	October 1, 2025	October 6, 2025
TG-250639	August 22, 2025	Murrey's Disposal Tariff 25 dba Olympic Disposal	October 1, 2025	October 6, 2025
TG-250643	August 22, 2025	Empire Disposal, Inc.	October 1, 2025	October 6, 2025
TG-250702	August 29, 2025	Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc., dba City Sanitary, Joe's Refuse, White Pass Garbage	October 1, 2025	October 13, 2025
TG-250646	August 26, 2025	Columbia River Disposal, Inc. (Tariff 8)	October 1, 2025	October 10, 2025
TG-250667	August 26, 2025	Columbia River Disposal, Inc. (Tariff 13)	October 1, 2025	October 10, 2025