

December 11, 2000

Ms. Carol J. Washburn
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

**Re: Docket No. TG-990161
Solid Waste Rulemaking: 480-70 WAC**

Dear Ms. Anderson:

The following comments on the Draft Rules relating to the rules for the transportation of solid waste are offered for consideration. The short time period given for comment (seven business days from the time of receipt in the mail) did not allow adequate time for review and comparison to existing Rules. We suggest to the Commission that longer timeframes are build into future rulemaking processes.

The following comments are arranged in the same order as appearance in the Draft Rules.

480-70-131(4) (5) Certificates, temporary. We appreciate the clarification and changes made to this section from an earlier version. However, because these are ‘temporary’ certificates, there should be definite term and conditions limitations. Consider replacing the word “may” with “will” in the sentence “The Commission will impose...” and “The Commission will issue...”

480-70-141 Annexations. This section contains no notification to the county of changes that occur in any of the scenarios described in this section. Consider including a notification from the Commission to the county, or involvement of the county in this process through a letter of recommendation or input on current, new company or previous-owner company.

480-70-396 Billing. Modify proposed new Section WAC 480-70-396 (5)(b) to read as follows:

(b) If a customer makes partial payment, a company must apply the payment to the regulated solid waste charges first unless the customer indicates otherwise. (*emphasis added to highlight proposed change*).

This proposed change is self-explanatory.

480-70-421 Fair use of customer information. Add to proposed new Section WAC 480-70-421 (3) new subparagraphs (d), (e) and (f) to read as follows:

(d) Release of information to a county or a city or a solid waste collection company under contract to a county or city for purposes related to the provision of collection and transportation of source-separated recyclable materials from residences.

(e) Release of information to a city or a solid waste collection company under contract to a city for purposes related to the provision of new solid waste collection services in an area where the certificated authority is being canceled through city annexation, incorporation or other means.

(f) Release of customer mailing address information to a county or a city for purposes related to provision of public outreach and education information as part of the local government's solid waste and recycling education program.

Proposed subparagraphs (d) and (e) above address the need under certain circumstances to have a coordinated information exchange between cities and/or counties and their contracted service providers and the WUTC certificated company haulers. These exchanges should occur under written agreements between the affected parties that also would provide that the confidentiality of certain proprietary data be maintained. Proposed subparagraph (f) would allow local governments to use customer mailing lists provided by the WUTC certificated hauler to promote solid waste and recycling education activities and programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Kathy Kiwala
Solid Waste Program Manager

Cc: Brian Carlson, Clark County Environmental Services Manager
Tami Kihs, City of Vancouver Solid Waste Program Manager