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November 23, 2004

HEIDI L. WILDER Direct (206) 689-8703 hlwilder@stoel.com

### <u>VIA HAND DELIVERY</u>

Ms. Carole Washburn, Executive Secretary Washington Utilities & Transportation Committee 1300 Evergreen Park Drive, SW Olympia, WA 98504

Re:

WUTC v. T&T Recovery, Inc.

Docket No. TG-041481

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed for filing is an original and nine copies of T&T Recovery, Inc.'s Notice of Appearance and T&T Recovery, Inc.'s Response to the Petition to Intervene of Washington Refuse and Recycling Association.

Please contact us if you have any questions and thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

Heidi L. Wilder

Assistant to John H. Ridge

**Enclosures** 

cc:

Parties of Record

Heidi L. Willer



## BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

DOCKET NO. TG-041481

Petitioner,

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE

٧.

T&T RECOVERY, INC.,

Respondent.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Respondent T&T Recovery, Inc. hereby appears in the above-entitled cause through the undersigned attorneys, and requests that all further service, pleadings, papers, and proceedings in this case, exclusive of original process, be served upon the undersigned attorneys at the following addresses:

James M. Van Nostrand, WSBA #15897 900 SW 5th Avenue, Suite 2600 Portland, OR 97204 Telephone (503) 224-3380 Fax (503) 220-2480 Email: jmvannostrand@stoel.com

DATED: November 23, 2004.

John H. Ridge, WSBA #31885 600 University Street, Suite 3600 Seattle, WA 98101 Telephone (206) 624-0900 Fax (206) 386-7500 Email: jhridge@stoel.com

STOEL RIVES LLP

James M. Van Nostrand, WSBA #15897

John H. Ridge, WSBA #31885

Attorneys for T&T Recovery, Inc.

**NOTICE OF APPEARANCE - 1** 



#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that I am an employee of Stoel Rives LLP. I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the state of Washington. I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a party to this action.

On November 23, 2004, I served a true and correct copy of T&T Recovery, Inc. 's Notice of Appearance and this Certificate of Service upon the following parties using the method below:

Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission	WUTC
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250	<ul><li>[ ] Via United States Mail</li><li>[ x ] Via Messenger</li><li>[ ] Via Facsimile</li><li>[ ] Via E-mail</li></ul>
Lisa Watson Assistant Attorney General	Representatives for WUTC
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW P.O. Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504-0128	<ul><li>[ ] Via United States Mail</li><li>[ x ] Via Messenger</li><li>[ ] Via Facsimile</li><li>[ ] Via E-mail</li></ul>
James K. Sell Ryan Sells Uptegraft Inc., P.S. 9657 Levin Road NW, Suite 240	Attorneys for Petitioner Washington Refuse & Recycling Association
Silverdale, WA 98383	[x] Via United States Mail [] Via Messenger [] Via Facsimile [] Via E-mail

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct

Executed this 23rd day of November, 2004 at Seattle, King County, Washington.

Heidi L. Wilder

Heidi L. Wilder

NOTICE OF APPEARANCE - 2

# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Petitioner,

v.

T&T RECOVERY, INC.,

Respondent.

**DOCKET NO. TG-041481** 

T&T RECOVERY, INC.'S RESPONSE TO THE PETITION TO INTERVENE OF WASHINGTON REFUSE AND RECYCLING ASSOCIATION

#### I. INTRODUCTION AND FACTUAL ASSERTIONS

- 1. On September 20, 2004, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the "Commission") issued to T&T Recovery, Inc. ("T&T Recovery") an Order to Show Cause and Notice of Hearing. *See generally* Order No. 01, Docket. No. TG-041481 ("Order No. 1"). The expressly stated purpose of the hearing is "to determine whether T&T Recovery . . . is transporting solid waste for collection or disposal for compensation over the public highways in Washington State without a certificate of public convenience and necessity as required by RCW 81.77.040." *Id.* at ¶ 1. The hearing is currently scheduled for December 1 and 2, 2004. *See generally* Notice Granting Continuance of Hearing, October 29, 2004.
- 2. The Washington Refuse and Recycling Association ("WRRA") is a trade association representing solid waste carriers in the state of Washington. See Petition to Intervene of WRRA ("Petition") at ¶ 1. WRRA seeks to intervene in this matter. WRRA argues that it should be permitted to intervene because all "[m]atters involving solid waste . . . are of interest

T&T RECOVERY, INC.'S RESPONSE TO WRRA'S PETITION TO INTERVENE - 1

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to the solid waste industry as a whole," id., and this action allegedly "involves illegal hauling, which is a matter which is of concern to the solid waste industry in Washington as a whole, and the resolution of which will affect each and every solid waste hauler in the state." Id. at ¶ 3 (internal quotation marks omitted).

3. WRRA's Petition fails to meet the standards for intervention and should be denied.

#### II. DISCUSSION

- 4. RCW 34.05.443 provides that a party may intervene only if "the intervention sought is in the interests of justice and will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings." As a result, a petition must plainly state the "petitioner's interest in the proceeding" (WAC 480-07-355(1)(c)(ii)) and the "petitioner's position(s) with respect to the matters in controversy" (WAC 480-07-355(1)(c)(iii)). WRRA's Petition should be denied because:
  - WRRA has not demonstrated a substantial interest in the subject matter of this proceeding,
  - this proceeding involves factual issues and WRRA's participation would duplicate the efforts of the Commission Staff, and
  - to the extent WRRA seeks to raise issues of law or policy, its intervention would unnecessarily broaden the scope of this proceeding—notwithstanding WRRA's statements to the contrary in its Petition—and thereby cause undue delay and expense to the detriment of T&T Recovery.
- 5. WRRA's Petition states that "[t]rade associations are granted potential party status in WUTC proceedings," and cites RCW 70.95.030, WAC 480-07-340(1), WAC 480-70-041, and WAC 480-07-355, respectively, as supporting authority. These provisions generally provide that a trade association may be defined as a "person" for various purposes, including intervention. While a trade association may qualify as a "person" for purposes of intervention, that status does not address the requirement of whether such "person" should be afforded "party" status in a particular proceeding. On this point, WRRA's Petition

fails to identify any substantial interest in the outcome of this proceeding, as required by WAC 480-07-355(3). Other trade associations that are granted party status in Commission proceedings achieve that status by virtue of their members being directly affected by the outcome of a particular proceeding. Members of Telecommunications Ratepayers Association for Costbased and Equitable Rates ("TRACER"), for example, are large-business telecommunications customers that pay the telephone rates established in Qwest or Verizon rate proceedings.

Members of Northwest Industrial Gas Users ("NWIGU") are industrial customers that pay the natural gas charges established in Puget Sound Energy ("PSE"), Cascade Natural Gas, or Avista Utilities rate proceedings. Members of Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities ("ICNU") are industrial customers of electric utilities that pay the electric rates established in PSE, Avista, or PacifiCorp rate proceedings. These trade associations are granted intervention in these various rate proceedings as representatives of members that are directly affected by the outcome of such proceedings. WRRA has alleged no such interest in its Petition. It has not identified any member that will be affected by the outcome of this proceeding. WRRA may be a "person" under RCW 70.95.030 or WAC 480-70-041, but it is not a "party" without the requisite showing.

6. This proceeding is focused solely on factual issues. The Commission instituted this hearing "to determine whether T&T Recovery . . . is transporting solid waste for collection or disposal for compensation over the public highways in Washington State without a certificate of public convenience and necessity as required by RCW 81.77.040." *See* Order No. 1 at ¶ 1. Moreover, the factual issues in dispute are specific to T&T Recovery alone. The Commission has received information allegedly indicating that "T&T is transporting solid waste for collection or disposal for compensation in Whatcom County and Island County . . . [without] a certificate of public convenience and necessity." *Id.* at ¶ 3. Pursuant to Order No. 1, T&T Recovery must appear before the Commission and factually prove that its "operations are not subject to the provisions of RCW 81.77.040." *Id.* at ¶ 8.

- WRRA's intervention. WRRA has been given ample opportunity to provide information to Commission Staff related to the factual issues in dispute, and, in fact, has provided such information. For example, in addition to numerous other documents and reports, WRRA hired a private investigator to prepare a "Confidential Investigative Report," which it delivered to Commission Staff. See Exh. 1, Oct. 18, 2004 Letter from L. Watson to J. Van Nostrand. Staff is apparently using this report as part of its case in the pending hearing. Id. Commission Staff has the principal obligation and responsibility to evaluate the facts and enforce the laws and regulations of the state of Washington, not WRRA. Having delivered its factual allegations to Staff, WRRA has no other role to play in this matter. Any intervention by the WRRA in this proceeding at this point would only duplicate the efforts of Commission Staff, and thereby impair and delay these proceedings. See RCW 34.05.443 (intervention is permissible only if it will not impair the orderly and prompt conduct of the proceedings).
- 8. Similarly, Judge Mace's findings and determinations in this proceeding will affect only the operations of T&T Recovery. The operations of no other company or organization, including WRRA, are at issue or will be affected by Judge Mace's rulings. Thus, WRRA does not have a substantial interest in the outcome of this proceeding.
- 9. To the extent that the WRRA wants to dispute issues of law or policy, its petition should still be denied. Such issues plainly go well beyond the scope of this proceeding, which involves a narrow factual dispute. To raise such issues in this matter would deviate from the main issue and cause undue delay and expense to the detriment of T&T Recovery. WRRA's participation thus is not in the public interest under WAC 480-07-355(3). Furthermore, the WRRA again failed to identify any such legal or policy issues in its Petition, or even discuss its position with respect to such issues, as required by WAC 480-07-355(1)(c)(iv).

#### III. CONCLUSION

10. This matter involves a narrow factual issue: whether T&T Recovery is unlawfully hauling solid waste without a certificate of public convenience and necessity as required by RCW 81.77.040. At the hearing, T&T Recovery has the burden of proving that its operations are not subject to the provisions of RCW 81.77.040. See Order No. 1 at ¶ 8. WRRA has already provided Commission Staff with its factual information bearing on this issue. Staff now has the responsibility to evaluate the facts and enforce the law. The rulings from Judge Mace flowing from this proceeding will affect no party other than T&T Recovery. Any intervention by WRRA is therefore unnecessary. It will only delay these proceedings and confuse the real issue at hand. As a result, WRRA's intervention is not in the public interest, and should be denied.

DATED: November 23, 2004.

STOEL RIVES LLP

Ju H. Augustand, WSBA #15897

John H. Ridge, WSBA #31885

Attorneys for T&T Recovery, Inc.

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that I am an employee of Stoel Rives LLP. I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the state of Washington. I am over the age of 18 years, and not a party to this action.

On November 23, 2004, I served a true and correct copy of T&T Recovery, Inc.'s Response to the Petition to Intervene of Washington Refuse and Recycling Association; and this Certificate of Service upon the following parties using the method below:

Commission Commission	Commission		
1300 S Evergreen Park Drive SW PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250	<ul><li>[ ] Via United States Mail</li><li>[ x ] Via Messenger</li><li>[ ] Via Facsimile</li><li>[ ] Via Email</li></ul>		
Lisa Watson Assistant Attorney General	Counsel for Commission Staff		
1300 S Evergreen Park Drive SW PO Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504-0128	<ul><li>[ ] Via United States Mail</li><li>[ x ] Via Messenger</li><li>[ ] Via Facsimile</li></ul>		
	[ ] Via Email		
James K. Sell Ryan Sells Uptegraft Inc., P.S. 9657 Levin Road NW, Suite 240	Counsel for Petitioner Washington Refuse & Recycling Association		
Silverdale, WA 98383	<ul><li>[ x ] Via United States Mail</li><li>[ ] Via Messenger</li><li>[ ] Via Facsimile</li><li>[ ] Via Email</li></ul>		

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the state of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct

Executed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2004 at Seattle, King County, Washington.

Heidi L. Wilder

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE - 1** 

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### Christine O. Gregoire

## ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

Utilities and Transportation Division 1400 S Evergreen Park Drive SW • PO Box 40128 • Olympia WA 98504-0128 • (360) 664-1183

October 18, 2004

James M. Van Nostrand Stoel Rives LLP 900 SW Fifth Avenue, Suite 2600 Portland, OR 97204-1268

Re:

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission vs. T&T Recovery, Inc.

Docket No. TG-041481

Jamie:

Enclosed is the investigation report by Larry Walsh prepared for the Washington Refuse & Recycling Association. The report was given to Staff, and it is one of the things Staff is using to prepare for the hearing in the above matter.

Very truly yours,

LISA WATSON

Assistant Attorney General

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LW:tt Enclosure

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