

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET TG-120733
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	ORDER 01
Complainant,)	
)	
v.)	
)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
Zippy Disposal Services, Inc., G-260)	SUSPENDING TARIFF; ALLOWING
)	RATES ON A TEMPORARY BASIS,
Respondent.)	SUBJECT TO REFUND
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On May 18, 2012, Zippy Disposal Service, Inc. (Zippy or Company), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) replacement Tariff No. 17. The stated effective date is July 3, 2012.
- 2 In this filing, Zippy proposes a general rate increase for residential, commercial and drop box garbage service, due, in part, to a July 1, 2012, increase in Chelan County disposal fees. Zippy’s proposed rates are designed to generate approximately \$79,000 (5.7 percent) additional annual revenue.
- 3 Staff has not completed its analysis of the Company’s proposed rates and recommends that the Commission suspend the May 18, 2012, tariff filing.
- 4 If the Commission suspends a tariff that includes rates to recover disposal fees, RCW 81.77.160 requires the Commission to allow the rates related to the disposal fees to become effective on the originally filed effective date on an interim basis, subject to refund, pending the Commission's final order.
- 5 On June 28, 2012, the Company filed revised rates to recover only the disposal increase portion of the proposed drop box rates in Item 230 of the tariff. The revised rates are designated as 2nd Revised Page 1, and 2nd Revised Page 40 to Tariff No. 16. Staff recommends that the Commission also suspend these pages and allow them to become effective on a temporary basis, subject to refund.

6 Zippy notified its customers of the proposed rate increase by mail on May 30, 2012. The Commission received comments from three customers concerning Zippy's original May 18, 2012, filing. The customers believe that the Commission should not allow the Company to increase rates in the current economic conditions.

7 The proposed revised rates might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public. The Commission therefore suspends all of the tariff filings and allows the revised pages filed on June 28, 2012, to become effective on a temporary basis, subject to refund.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

8 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, regulations, practices, accounts and affiliated interests of public service companies, including solid waste companies. [RCW 80.01.040](#), [RCW 81.01](#), [RCW 81.04](#), [RCW 81.16](#), [RCW 81.28](#) and [RCW 81.77](#).

9 (2) Zippy Disposal Service, Inc., is a solid waste company and public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.

10 (3) These matters came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 28, 2012.

11 (4) The tariff revisions Zippy filed on May 18, 2012, increase rates for residential and commercial garbage and drop box collection services. The revised tariff pages filed on June 28, 2012, increase rates to recover just disposal fees.

12 (5) Zippy has not yet demonstrated that the proposed rates are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient. The Commission finds it reasonable to allow the revised rates that recover only the increased disposal fees as filed on June 28, 2012, to become effective July 3, 2012, on a temporary basis, subject to refund.

13 (6) In addition, the Commission invokes the rights, remedies and procedures contained in the reparations statute, [RCW 81.04.220](#), to the extent the Commission finds that any rate subject to this investigation is excessive or exorbitant.

- 14 (7) Zippy may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation consistent with the provisions of [RCW 81.20.020](#).

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 15 (1) The tariff revisions Zippy Disposal Service, Inc., filed on May 18, 2012, and the revised pages filed on June 28, 2012, are suspended.
- 16 (2) The revised tariffs pages Zippy Disposal Service, Inc., filed on June 28, 2012, shall become effective on July 3, 2012, on a temporary basis, subject to refund if the Commission determines that different rates will be fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
- 17 (3) The Commission may hold hearings if needed at such times and places as required.
- 18 (4) Zippy Disposal Service, Inc., must not change or alter the tariff pages filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless the Commission authorizes the change in this docket.
- 19 (5) The Commission will institute an investigation of Zippy Disposal Service, Inc.'s books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations as necessary and as described above.
- 20 (6) Zippy Disposal Service, Inc., shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation, consistent with [RCW 81.20.020](#).

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective June 28, 2012.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner