BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of) DOCKET NO. TG-031947
)
RABANCO LTD. d/b/a EASTSIDE) ORDER NO. 01
DISPOSAL G-12)
)
)
FOR REVENUE SHARING UNDER) ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
THE PROVISIONS OF) STATUTORY NOTICE AND
RCW 81.77.185) REQUIRING REPORTING
)

BACKGROUND

- On November 24, 2003, Rabanco Ltd. d/b/a Eastside Disposal (Eastside) filed with the Commission revised pages in Tariff No. 10 for its annual commodity revenue adjustment. The company also requested that the filing become effective January 1, 2004, by less than statutory notice. Eastside stated that the reason for less than statutory notice is to recognize the change in the value of recyclable commodities since the last rate adjustment on January 1, 2003. As part of that filing, Eastside submitted a Recycling and Commodity Revenue Sharing Plan for King County under the provisions of RCW 81.77.185.
- 2 The Recycling and Commodity Revenue Sharing Plan has been certified by the appropriate local government authority.
- 3 By December 2, 2005, the Commission must provide a report to the Legislature that evaluates:
- 4 (1) The effectiveness of revenue sharing as an incentive to increase recycling in the state; and
- 5 (2) The effect of revenue sharing on costs to customers.

- In order for the Staff to determine the cost and effectiveness of revenue sharing,
 it is necessary that Eastside provide data and information on its recycling
 and solid waste programs. Eastside is required to submit:
- 7 (1) Copies of all waste composition studies and quarterly reports required by the King County Recycling Plan.
- 8 (2) On a quarterly basis, multi-family statistics that include the tons of solid waste disposed and recycle commodities collected and a count of multifamily customers subscribing to each level of garbage collection.
- 9 (3) For each month in the quarter, the commodity sales revenue for each product sold.
- (4) On a quarterly basis, schedules detailing the costs associated with implementing the Recycling Plan such as the expenses of conducting the waste composition studies, switching to single stream recycling, adding recyclable materials and adding food waste to yardwaste programs.
- (5) Any other information that may be needed to evaluate the effectiveness and cost of the programs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, regulations, practices, accounts, and transfers of public service companies, including solid waste companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 81.01 RCW; Chapter 81.04 RCW; Chapter 81.28 RCW and Chapter 81.77 RCW.*

- 13 (2) Eastside is a solid waste company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- (3) Eastside is subject to the provisions of RCW 81.28.050 and WAC 480-70-266 requiring solid waste companies to file changes in any rate or charge with forty-five day's notice. For good cause shown, however, the Commission may allow changes without requiring forty-five day's notice by order specifying the changes to be made and the time when it shall take effect. WAC 480-70-276.
- (4) WAC 480-70-051 provides that the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in Chapter 480-70 WAC, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes.
- (5) Staff has reviewed the request in Docket TG-031947 and recommended the less than statutory notice request of Eastside be granted. Staff further recommended the Commission grant an exemption to WAC 480-70-271 and require the Company to notify customers on their next regularly scheduled billing.
- 17 (6) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on December 31, 2003.
- (7) After examination of the proposed tariff revisions filed by Eastside on November 24, 2003, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revisions should become effective January 1, 2004.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 19 (1) The request sought by Rabanco Ltd. d/b/a Eastside Disposal for less than statutory notice is granted.
- 20 (2) After the effective date of this Order, Rabanco Ltd. d/b/a Eastside Disposal is granted an exemption from WAC 480-70-271, Customer notice requirements. Rabanco Ltd. d/b/a Eastside Disposal shall notice customers on its next regularly scheduled billing.
- (3) Rabanco Ltd. d/b/a Eastside Disposal to provide quarterly reports as set forth above. Quarterly reports will continue until September 30, 2005. The reports will be forwarded to the Commission within 20 days of the quarter's end.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 31st day of December, 2003.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary