

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

CARROLL-NASLUND DISPOSAL
SERVICE, INC. d/b/a NASLUND
DISPOSAL SERVICE, INC., G-37

Respondent.

DOCKET TG-152350

ORDER 02

ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT
AND ORDER SUSPENDING
TARIFF; ALLOWING REVISED
RATES TO BECOME EFFECTIVE

BACKGROUND

- 1 On December 15, 2015, Carroll-Naslund Disposal Service, Inc. d/b/a Naslund Disposal Service, Inc. (Naslund or Company), filed proposed tariff revisions with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) that would generate approximately \$95,000 (8.1 percent) in additional annual revenue. The proposed effective date for the tariff revisions was February 1, 2016. The revisions were prompted by increases in disposal fees, wages, postage, insurance, and other operating expenses. Naslund currently serves approximately 3,700 residential, commercial, and drop box customers in Asotin and Garfield Counties. The Company's last general rate increase became effective May 1, 2009.
- 2 On January 28, 2016, the Commission entered Order 01, suspending rates and allowing temporary rates, subject to refund, effective February 1, 2016, to allow for the disposal fee increase at the Asotin County Regional Landfill.
- 3 Commission staff (Staff) reviewed the Company's filing and found that the proposed rates would result in excessive revenue. Staff made a significant fuel adjustment of approximately \$20,000, an adjustment to payroll to remove unsupported bonuses, and an adjustment to rent expenses to remove unsupported affiliate rent. Staff and the Company agree on a revised revenue requirement of approximately \$46,000 (4.6 percent) additional annual revenue and agree to revised rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient. All of the revised rates are less than the Company's original proposed rates. On March 16, 2016, the Company filed revised rates at Staff recommended levels.

4 On December 31, 2015, the Company notified customers by mail of the proposed rate increase. Staff received one consumer comment opposed to the proposed rate increase. The customer's comment does not change Staff's opinion that the Company's financial information supports the revised revenue requirement, and that the revised rates and charges are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient. Staff's review shows that the expenses are reasonable and required as part of the Company's operations.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

5 (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, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including solid waste companies.

6 (2) Naslund is a solid waste company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.

7 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 24, 2016.

8 (4) The tariff revision presently under consideration is fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient because the Company has demonstrated the need for additional annual revenue and for revision of the Company's rate structure.

9 (5) After reviewing the revised tariff revision Naslund filed in Docket TG-152350 and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public interest to dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff in Docket TG-152350, dated January 28, 2016, and to allow the revised rates and tariff revision filed on March 16, 2016, to become effective on April 1, 2016.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

10 (1) Order 01, the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff, in Docket TG-152350, entered on January 28, 2016, is dismissed.

11 (2) The revised tariff revision filed in this docket on December 16, 2015, as revised March 16, 2016, shall become effective on April 1, 2016.

12 DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective March 24, 2016.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Chairman

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner

ANN E. RENDAHL, Commissioner