

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of	)	DOCKET TG-121061
	)	
RABANCO LTD, DBA ALLIED	)	ORDER 01
WASTE SERVICES OF KENT,	)	
RABANCO COMPANIES AND	)	
SEA-TAC DISPOSAL, G-12,	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
Requesting Authority to Retain Thirty	)	ORDER AUTHORIZING
Percent of the Revenue Received From	)	REVENUE SHARING FOR
the Sale of Recyclable Materials	)	RECYCLABLE COMMODITIES
Collected in Residential Recycling	)	REVENUE ON A TEMPORARY
Service	)	BASIS, SUBJECT TO REVISION
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1 On June 19, 2012, Rabanco Ltd., dba Allied Waste Services of Kent, Rabanco Companies and Sea-Tac Disposal (Sea-Tac or Company), filed a request that the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) allow it to retain up to thirty percent of the revenue received from the sale of recyclable materials during the 2012-13 recycling plan period. The Company serves approximately 7,400 customers in King County (County).
  
- 2 The tariff revision filed by the Company includes additional refund monies which were the basis of a settlement agreement that resulted in the lifting of the suspension imposed by the Commission in Order 01, TG-111992.<sup>1</sup>
  
- 3 RCW 81.77.185 states that the Commission shall allow a solid waste collection company collecting recyclable materials to retain up to fifty percent of the revenue paid to the company for the material if the company submits a plan to the Commission that is certified by the appropriate local government authority as being consistent with the local

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<sup>1</sup> Order 02, Docket TG-111991 consolidated dockets:

- TG-111991, Rabanco Ltd., d/b/a Eastside Disposal, Container Hauling, Rabanco Connections and Rabanco Companies;
- TG-111992; Rabanco Ltd., d/b/a Allied Waste Services of Kent, Rabanco Companies and Sea-Tac Disposal; and
- TG-111993 Rabanco Ltd d/b/a Lynnwood Disposal

government solid waste plan and that demonstrates how the revenues will be used to increase recycling. The remaining revenue shall be passed to residential customers.

- 4 On May 30, 2012, the Commission issued its interpretive and policy statement (IPS) in Docket TG-112162 to address issues concerning implementation of recycling revenue sharing plans, including Incentives, Bonuses or Returns in paragraphs 26 through 32. The IPS articulates a policy that incentives should be conditioned upon or tied to achieving performance goals or objectives.
- 5 On June 19, 2012, Sea-Tac, along with Rabanco Ltd's other operating units in the County filed a proposed Commodity Revenue Sharing Enhancement Plan for King County (Plan) for the period spanning August 1, 2012, to July 31, 2013. The Company submitted the Plan to meet the requirements for revenue sharing set forth in RCW 81.77.185. Rabanco Ltd. also submitted a budget for the 2012-13 plan period for all of its operating units in the County. For Sea-Tac, the Plan proposes to retain \$41,182 (27.6 percent) of the forecasted \$149,211 revenue from the sale of recyclable commodities collected from residential customers.
- 6 The Plan calls for the Company to use retained funds for the following activities and budget amounts: Data Collection and Reporting (\$1,274), Recycling Protocol (\$5,222), External Communication and Outreach (\$1,274), Recycling Cart Conversion (\$17,067), Cart Contamination (\$1,274), Yard Waste and Food Waste Promotion (\$1,274), and Project Management and Administration (\$11,845).
- 7 The Company's 2012-13 budget included an incentive payment of \$4,946 (12.6 percent) of planned expenditures. The Company subsequently, revised its proposed incentive payment to five percent, for the purpose of calculating for the commodity recycling credit. The Plan states in part:

"Republic Services is eligible for a financial incentive for implementation of this plan as follows:

  - For program expenditures, an amount equal to 5% of company expenditures"

The incentive is not conditioned upon or tied to achieving any performance goals or objectives. The Commission disallows the financial incentive as filed. The Company may file a revised proposed incentive structure.

8 On June 20, 2012, the County filed with the Commission a letter, signed by Kevin Kiernan, Solid Waste Division Director, which certifies the Company's Plan is consistent with the County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. The County recommends that the Commission allow Sea-Tac to retain up to thirty percent of the actual value of recyclable commodity revenues received from August 1, 2012, through July 31, 2013, the period of the agreement.

9 Staff recommends that the Commission grant Sea-Tac's request to retain up to thirty percent of the recyclable commodity revenue collected during the period of the plan, August 1, 2012, to July 31, 2013, on a temporary basis subject to revision.

#### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 10 (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 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.*
- 11 (2) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled open meeting on July 27, 2012.
- 12 (3) Sea-Tac is engaged in the business of providing solid waste services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 13 (4) RCW 81.77.185 states that the Commission shall allow a solid waste collection company collecting recyclable materials to retain up to fifty percent of the revenue paid to the company for the material if the company submits a plan to the Commission that is certified by the appropriate local government authority as being consistent with the local government solid waste management plan and that demonstrates how the revenues will be used to increase recycling. The remaining revenue shall be passed to residential customers.
- 14 (5) King County is responsible for managing waste through its Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan. The Director of King County's Solid Waste Division

certified that Sea-Tac's recycling plan is consistent with the County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

- 15 (6) Included as part of Sea-Tac's Plan with the County is a provision for an incentive payment of five percent, or \$1,961, of planned expenditures of \$39,228. The incentive is not conditioned upon or tied to achieving any performance goals or objectives and therefore shall be rejected. To be approved, such an incentive plan should be tied to performance goals or objectives.
- 16 (7) After reviewing Sea-Tac's request to retain up to thirty percent of the revenue it receives from the sale of recyclable materials collected in its single family and multi-family residential recycling programs from August 1, 2012, to July 31, 2013, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that Sea-Tac's request should be granted on a temporary basis, subject to revision.

### ORDER

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 17 (1) Rabanco Ltd., dba Allied Waste Services of Kent, Rabanco Companies and Sea-Tac Disposal, is authorized to retain up to thirty percent of the revenue it receives from the sale of recyclable materials collected in its single family and multi-family residential recycling programs from August 1, 2012, to July 31, 2013, on a temporary basis, subject to revision.
- 18 (2) Rabanco Ltd., dba Allied Waste Services of Kent, Rabanco Companies and Sea-Tac Disposal, will make a compliance filing by August 17, 2012, in time for Staff to make its recommendation to the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 30, 2012. The compliance filing will specify performance criteria and conditions to be met by the Company at the end of the plan period, in order to be eligible for award of the incentive specified in its Plan.
- 19 (3) Rabanco Ltd., dba Allied Waste Services of Kent, Rabanco Companies and Sea-Tac Disposal, will report to the Commission no later than June 17, 2013, the amount of revenue it retained, the amount of money it spent on the activities identified in Rabanco Ltd., dba Allied Waste Services of Kent, Rabanco

Companies and Sea-Tac Disposal's recycling plan and the effect the activities had on increasing recycling.

- 20 (3) Rabanco Ltd., dba Allied Waste Services of Kent, Rabanco Companies and Sea-Tac Disposal, shall make its next revenue sharing plan and commodity adjustment effective August 1, 2013, and each August 1 thereafter, and shall make all future revenue sharing plans and commodity adjustment filings forty-five days prior to the proposed effective date.
- 21 (4) The Commission delegates to the Secretary the authority to approve by letter all compliance filings required in this Order.
- 22 (5) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Rabanco Ltd., dba Allied Waste Services of Kent, Rabanco Companies and Sea-Tac Disposal, to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective July 30, 2012.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Chairman



PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner



PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner