

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET TG-112144
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)	
	)	ORDER 02
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
TORRE REFUSE AND RECYCLING,	)	ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT
LLC, d/b/a SUNSHINE DISPOSAL &	)	AND ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF
RECYCLING, G-260	)	REVISIONS; ALLOWING REVISED
Respondent.	)	TARIFF REVISIONS
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On December 14, 2011, Torre Refuse and Recycling, LLC, d/b/a Sunshine Disposal & Recycling (Torre or Company), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff No. 3. The stated effective date is February 1, 2012.
  
- 2     In this filing, Torre proposes a general rate increase that increases residential and commercial garbage rates, due, in part, to a February 1, 2012, increase in Spokane County disposal fees. The filing also proposes to increase rates for drop box hauling. Torre’s proposed rates are designed to increase revenues by approximately \$170,000 (5.5 percent) annually.
  
- 3     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.
  
- 4     On January 26, 2012, the Commission issued a Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions and allowed temporary rates, subject to refund, to recover just the disposal portion of the proposed rates, pending an investigation to determine whether the revisions are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
  
- 5     Staff has completed its review of the Company’s books and records. Staff’s analysis shows that the proposed rates result in excessive revenue. Staff and the Company agreed

to a revised revenue requirement of approximately \$138,000 (4.5 percent) additional annual revenue. The Company has demonstrated the expenses are reasonable and required as part of the Company's operation, that the Company's financial information supports the revised revenue requirement and the revised rates and charges would generate the revised revenue requirement. On March 21, 2012, Torre filed revised rates at Staff recommended levels.

### **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

- 6 (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 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.
- 7 (2) Torre is a solid waste company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 8 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 29, 2012.
- 9 (4) The proposed tariff revisions presently under suspension would result in excessive revenue. Staff and the Company agreed to a revised revenue requirement of approximately \$138,000 (4.5 percent) in additional annual revenue. On March 21, 2012, Torre filed revised rates at Staff recommended levels. The revised rates are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient because the Company has demonstrated the expenses are reasonable and required as part of the Company's operation, the Company's financial information supports the revised revenue requirement and the revised rates and charges would generate the revised revenue requirement.
- 10 (5) After reviewing the tariff revisions Torre filed in Docket TG-112144 and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public interest to dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket TG-112144, and allow the revised tariff revisions filed on March 21, 2012, to become effective on April 1, 2012.

**ORDER**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

- 11 (1) The Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket TG-112144, entered on January 26, 2012, is dismissed.
- 12 (2) The revised tariff revisions Torre Refuse and Recycling, LLC, d/b/a Sunshine Disposal & Recycling filed in this docket on March 21, 2012, shall become effective on April 1, 2012.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective March 29, 2012.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner