

Agenda Date: July 24, 2014  
Item Number: B1

**Docket: TG-141092**

Company Name: Methow Valley Sanitation Service, Inc., dba WasteWise Methow. G-146

Staff: Mike Young, Regulatory Analyst  
John Cupp, Consumer Protection Staff

### **Recommendation**

Take no action, allowing revised Tariff No. 9 filed by Methow Valley Sanitation Service, Inc., dba WasteWise Methow, on June 25, 2014, to become effective August 1, 2014, by operation of law.

### **Discussion**

On May 15, 2014, Methow Valley Sanitation Service, Inc., dba WasteWise Methow (Methow or company), filed Tariff No. 9 with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) that would generate approximately \$126,000 (23.5 percent) additional annual revenue. The proposed rates are to recover increases in employee wages and benefits, fuel, maintenance, and other general operating expenses since the company's last general rate increase became effective on December 1, 1995. The company serves approximately 1,100 customers in Okanogan County.

Staff has completed its review of the company's supporting documents and records and finds the company has demonstrated a need for \$119,500 (23.3 percent) additional annual revenue. Due to a formula error in the company's worksheets, the proposed rates initially filed by the company would generate only approximately \$48,000 (9.0 percent) additional annual revenue.

Staff advised the company that it could file revised rates that reflect the full revenue requirement. However, because the revised rates are significantly higher than the rates that the company notified customers, the company should postpone the proposed effective date to August 1, 2014, and re-notice customers of the higher revised rates.

On June 25, 2014, the company filed revised rates that would generate the full revenue requirement, postponed the effective date to August 1, 2014, and re-noticed customers of the higher revised rates.

**RATE COMPARISON**

	<b>Current Rate</b>	<b>Proposed Rate</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>		<b>Full Revenue Requirement Rate</b>	<b>Full Rate to Current Rate Percent Change</b>
<b>Residential Garbage</b>						
1 Can-Weekly Pickup	\$ 13.75	\$ 15.00	9.1%		\$ 16.95	23.3%
1 Can-Every Other Week Pickup	\$ 7.50	\$ 8.20	9.3%		\$ 9.25	23.3%
1 Can-Monthly Pickup	\$ 4.65	\$ 5.10	9.7%		\$ 5.75	23.7%
<b>Commercial Garbage</b>						
1 Yard Container-per Pickup	\$ 13.25	\$ 14.45	9.1%		\$ 16.35	23.4%
2 Yard Container-per Pickup	\$ 24.25	\$ 26.50	9.3%		\$ 29.90	23.3%
1 Can-Weekly Pickup	\$ 13.75	\$ 15.00	9.1%		\$ 16.95	23.3%
2 Cans-Weekly Pickup	\$ 19.35	\$ 21.00	8.5%		\$ 23.85	23.3%
<b>Roll-Off Garbage</b>						
20 Yard Drop Box-per Pickup	\$ 100.00	\$ 115.00	15.0%		\$ 123.00	23.0%

**Customer Comments**

On June 1, 2014, the company notified its customers of the proposed rate increase by mail. The company re-noticed customers of the higher revised rates on July 1, 2014. Staff received no comments on this filing.

**Conclusion**

Take no action allowing revised Tariff No. 9 filed by Methow Valley Sanitation Service, Inc., dba WasteWise Methow, on June 25, 2014, to become effective August 1, 2014, by operation of law.