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BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In Re Application of

WASTE MANAGEMENT OF WASHINGTON, INC. d/b/a WM Healthcare Solutions of Washington 720 4th Ave. Ste 400 Kirkland, WA 98033-8136 Docket No. TG-120033

DECLARATION OF NANETTE M.
WALKER, CPA, IN OPPOSITION TO
WASTE MANAGEMENT'S MOTION TO
COMPEL DISCOVERY

I, Nanette M. Walker, CPA, declare as follows:

- 1. I am over the age of 18 and am competent to testify. I make this declaration based on my personal knowledge and am competent to testify to the matters addressed herein.
- I am a certified public accountant with more than 33 years of public accounting experience. I have an independent accounting practice. My office is in Ridgefield,
   Washington.
- 3. Part of my accounting practice over the last 31 years has involved accounting work for solid waste collection companies regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the "Commission"). I have prepared numerous annual reports to the Commission for solid waste collection companies and have assisted Class A solid waste

DECLARATION OF NANETTE M. WALKER, CPA, IN OPPOSITION TO WASTE MANAGEMENT'S MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY - 1

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collection companies in preparing presentations to the Commission on rate matters, including general rate increases.

- 4. I am familiar with the requirements for general rate increase presentations by Class A and B solid waste collection companies under WAC 480-07-520, including the "revenue price-out" required by WAC 480-07-520(f). I have worked with Class A solid waste collection companies in preparing such revenue price-out presentations and understand what they require.
- 5. I have consulted with Stericycle of Washington, Inc. ("Stericycle") on the Commission's accounting requirements for more than 9 years and have assisted Stericycle in preparing its annual reports to the Commission during that period. I am generally familiar with the financial accounting and financial management systems used by Stericycle and its parent, Stericycle, Inc. Stericycle, as a Class C solid waste collection company, is not subject to the requirements of WAC 480-07-520. Nonetheless, I have consulted with Stericycle's financial accounting staff and have considered what would be required to prepare a revenue price-out in compliance with WAC 480-07-520(f). After consulting with Stericycle's financial accounting staff, I estimate that at least 80 hours of my time at \$195/hour and at least 100 hours of Stericycle staff accounting time at an average cost of approximately \$80/hour would be required for Stericycle to prepare the revenue price-out requested by Waste Management in accordance with the requirements of WAC 480-07-520(f).
- 6. I have read the Declaration of Mike Weinstein dated July 31, 2012, filed with Waste Management's Motion to Compel Discovery. Mr. Weinstein may be correct that it would take him "no more than one day to <u>query</u> Waste Management's accounting system to prepare a revenue price-out like the one Waste Management has requested from Stericycle." (Emphasis added.) Although Mr. Weinstein addresses the time required to "query" Waste Management's accounting system for the relevant data, he has not indicated whether his query would generate data sufficient for an accurate revenue price-out. In any event, the project

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involved to generate a revenue price-out for Stericycle is not comparable to the task described by Mr. Weinstein for several reasons. First, Waste Management is a Class A solid waste collection company subject to WAC 480-07-520(f) and has a history of general rate increases, presumably prepared in accordance with that regulation. Thus, Waste Management's accounting system is programmed and otherwise specifically set up to generate the information required for that purpose. Stericycle is not subject to WAC 480-07-520(f), has never requested a general rate increase and its accounting system is not set up to generate the data required to prepare a revenue price-out. Accordingly, Stericycle would need first to evaluate its accounting system to determine what it would take to access to the data required to generate a revenue price-out and then re-program its accounting system software to generate the necessary data for this purpose. Further effort would be required to build the required data for Stericycle because the relevant data is collected and maintained on a consolidated basis by Stericycle, Inc. This would require making appropriate cost allocations between Stericycle, Inc. and Stericycle and then between Stericycle's regulated and unregulated (e.g., non-Washington) services. Given my other work commitments and the commitments of Stericycle's accounting staff, I believe the time required to generate a revenue price-out in the manner requested by Waste Management would take a minimum of two months at a cost of not less than \$25,000 -- and perhaps substantially more.

7. I am also familiar with what it would take to generate a balance sheet for Stericycle in accordance with the Commission's requirements and generally accepted accounting principles. Because such balance sheets have not been prepared in past years, the task would be quite formidable. Preparation of a balance sheet for the year ending 12/31/2011, would require reconstruction of Stericycle's book revenue and expense from the company's inception in 1993. This exercise would require retrieval of information that may not be readily available from the Stericycle financial accounting data base. If it could be done at all, it would require substantial time and effort by myself and Stericycle's accounting staff.

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I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington and the United States that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

EXECUTED this 6th day of August, 2012 at Konstant Washington

Nanette M. Walker, CPA

DECLARATION OF NANETTE M. WALKER, CPA, IN OPPOSITION TO WASTE MANAGEMENT'S MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY - 4

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

2	I, Vickie L. Owen, certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of				
3	Washington that, on August 6, 2012, I caused to be served on the person(s) listed below in the				
4	manner shown a copy of DECLARATION OF NANETTE M. WALKER, CPA, IN				
5	OPPOSITION TO WASTE MANAGEMENT'S MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY:				
6	Washington Utilities and		Via Legal Messenger		
7	Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW		Via Facsimile		
8	PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250	×	Via U.S. Mail, First Class, Postage Prepaid		
9	(360) 664-1160 records@utc.wa.gov	×	Via Email		
10					
11	Administrative Law Judge	×	Via Email		
12	Gregory Kopta gkopta@utc.wa.gov		,		
13					
14	Jessica Goldman		Via Legal Messenger		
15	Polly L. McNeill Summit Law Group		Via Facsimile		
16	315 – 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue South Seattle, WA 98104		Via U.S. Mail, First Class, Postage Prepaid		
17	jessicag@summitlaw.com pollym@summitlaw.com	×	Via Email		
18	kathym@summitlaw.com deannas@summitlaw.com				
19					
20	James K. Sells Attorney at Law		Via Legal Messenger		
21	PMB 22, 3110 Judson Street Gig Harbor, WA 98335		Via Facsimile Via U.S. Mail, First Class,		
22	jamessells@comcast.net cheryls@rsulaw.com		Postage Prepaid		
23	Attorney for Protestant WRRA, Rubatino, Consolidated, Murrey's and Pullman	×	Via Email		
24					
25					

DECLARATION OF NANETTE M. WALKER, CPA, IN OPPOSITION TO WASTE MANAGEMENT'S MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY - 5

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1 2 3 4 5	Fronda Woods Office of the Attorney General Utilities and Transportation Division 1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW PO Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504-0128 (360) 664-1225 (360) 586-5522 Fax fwoods@utc.wa.gov BDeMarco@utc.wa.gov		Via Legal Messenger Via Facsimile Via U.S. Mail, First Class, Postage Prepaid Via Email	
7				
8	Dated at Seattle, Washington this 6 <sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012.			
9		100 -		
10	Visa Visa Visa Visa Visa Visa Visa Visa	kie L. Ov	e L'Owen	
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DECLARATION OF NANETTE M. WALKER, CPA, IN OPPOSITION TO WASTE MANAGEMENT'S MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY - 6

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