BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND) DOCKET TG-112169
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)
	ORDER 02
Complainant,)
)
v.)
) ORDER DISMISSING
PULLMAN DISPOSAL SERVICE,) COMPLAINT AND ORDER
INC., G-42,) SUSPENDING TARIFF
) REVISIONS; ALLOWING TARIFF
Respondent.) REVISIONS
)

BACKGROUND

- On December 16, 2011, Pullman Disposal Service, Inc., G-42 (Pullman or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff No. 17, designated as 20th Revised Page 2, 1st Revised Page 20, 2nd Revised Page 21, 2nd Revised Page 23, 2nd Revised Page 24, 3rd Revised Page 25, 4th Revised Page 26, 2nd Revised Page 27, 3rd Revised Page 29, 4th Revised Page 30, 2nd Revised Page 31, 4th Revised Page 33, 3rd Revised Page 35, 2nd Revised Page 36, 2nd Revised Page 38, 1st Revised Page 39, 2nd Revised Page 40, 2nd Revised Page 41, 3rd Revised Page 42, 3rd Revised Page 43, 3rd Revised Page 44, 3rd Revised Page 45, 4th Revised Page 46, 3rd Revised Page 47, 2nd Revised Page 48, and 2nd Revised Page 49. The stated effective date is February 1, 2012.
- In this filing, Pullman proposes a general rate increase for residential, commercial and drop box garbage service due, in part, to a February 1, 2012, increase in Whitman County disposal fees. Pullman's proposed rates are designed to generate approximately \$175,000 (6.4 percent) additional annual revenue.
- 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. On January 23, 2012, the Company filed revised rates to recover just the disposal increase portion of the proposed rates. The revised rates are designated as 21st Revised Page 2, 4th Revised Page 25, 5th Revised Page 26, 4th Revised Page 29, 5th Revised Page 30, 5th Revised Page 33, 4th Revised Page 42,

- 4th Revised Page 43, 5th Revised Page 46, and 4rd Revised Page 47. The revenue impact of the disposal increase is approximately \$52,000 of additional annual revenue.
- On January 26, 2012, the Commission entered 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.
- Staff has completed its review of the Company's books and records and has determined that expenses are reasonable and required as part of the Company's operation, that the Company's financial information supports the proposed revenue requirement and the original proposed rates and charges are fair, just reasonable and sufficient.
- On March 16, 2012, the Company filed tariff revisions publishing the original proposed rates. The revised pages are designated as 22nd Revised Page 2, 2nd Revised Page 20, 3rd Revised Page 21, 3rd Revised Page 23, 3rd Revised Page 24, 5th Revised Page 25, 6th Revised Page 26, 3rd Revised Page 27, 5th Revised Page 29, 6th Revised Page 30, 3rd Revised Page 31, 6th Revised Page 33, 4th Revised Page 35, 3rd Revised Page 36, 3rd Revised Page 38, 2nd Revised Page 39, 3rd Revised Page 40, 3rd Revised Page 41, 5th Revised Page 42, 5th Revised Page 43, 4th Revised Page 44, 4th Revised Page 45, 6th Revised Page 46, 5th Revised Page 47, 0 Revised Page 47a, 3rd Revised Page 48, and 3rd Revised Page 49.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 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.
- 8 (2) Pullman is a solid waste company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 9 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 29, 2012.

- 10 (4) The tariff revisions the Company filed on March 16, 2012, are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient because the Company has demonstrated the expenses incurred are reasonable and required as part of the Company's operation, the Company's financial information supports the proposed revenue requirement and the original proposed rates would generate the proposed revenue requirement and are fair, just reasonable and sufficient.
- 11 (5) After reviewing the tariff revisions Pullman filed in Docket TG-112169 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-112169, dated January 26, 2012, and allow the tariff revisions filed on March 16, 2012, to become effective on April 1, 2012.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) The Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket TG-112169, entered on January 26, 2012, is dismissed.
- 13 (2) The tariff revisions Pullman Disposal Service, Inc., filed in this docket on March 16, 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