

Exhibit DS-6
Docket TG-181023
Witness: Daniel Stein

**BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of:

SUPERIOR WASTE & RECYCLE, LLC

for Authority to Operate as a Solid Waste
Collection Company in Washington

DOCKET TG-181023

EXHIBIT TO TESTIMONY OF

**DANIEL STEIN ON BEHALF OF
SUPERIOR WASTE AND RECYCLE, LLC**

KitsapSun article dated Oct 29, 2007

May 15, 2019

LOCAL NEWS

Resident, Brem-Air Come to 'Compromise' on Garbage Pickup



Steve Zugschwerdt | Kitsap Sun Zana Gearllach of Seabeck nearly lost her "pack-out" garbage service when Brem-Air Disposal placed a 50-foot limit on the special pickup. Eventually a "compromise" was reached.

By Christopher Dunagan

Oct. 29, 2007



SEABECK

Zana Gearllach, 29, maintains a bold, independent streak, despite her struggles with cerebral palsy. The neurological disorder affects her speech as well as her ability to move heavy objects —such as garbage cans.

Each week, Gearllach manages to move her trash can a few feet, placing it outside on garbage day. She has been glad to pay a little extra for the garbage collector to walk up to her house and carry the can 80 to 100 feet to the road.

Gearllach was managing well by herself in her single-story home with a flat driveway. But garbage pickup grew more complicated recently when she received an unexpected phone call. She was informed by the garbage company, Brem-Air Disposal, that the garbage collector would no longer walk up to her house. She would need to move her garbage can about halfway to the road to meet a new limit of 50 feet.

"I get it done every week," Gearllach said of moving the can outside, "but it is slow, and heavy. There is no way I could get it out to the end of my driveway or even the middle."

Things said by company officials and perhaps by Gearllach and her mother strained the relationship between customer and garbage company. But after many phone calls, they eventually struck a "compromise," in the words of Terry Bickel of Brem-Air.

As it turns out, Gearllach will continue to have her garbage picked up without relying on family, friends or neighbors.

Bickel said about 250 people in Kitsap County are affected by the new 50-foot limit for "pack-out" service. Only two — including Gearllach — have complained that the adjustment is unfairly difficult.

In all, about 2,000 customers subscribe to the service, but the vast majority were already within 50 feet before the new limit went into effect, Bickel said.

The reason for the change, he said, is simply a matter of safety.

"We used to have two people on a truck; now we have one," he said.

"When we walk down someone's driveway, we are leaving vehicles unattended. We can't shut them down, and we don't want to leave them sitting there running unattended."

The risk is that a passer-by could start a truck rolling, he said. It is hard to imagine the kind of damage that could result when a 52,000-pound vehicle goes out of control.

Bickel said many places don't offer pack-out service at all, especially where garbage collection has been automated and drivers stay in their trucks.

Perhaps the discussion would have gone smoother if the company official who first phoned Gearllach had not used the excuse that it was a new rule by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission. According to Lauri Gearllach, Zana's mother, company officials also claimed that federal officials were worried about a terrorist hijacking a garbage truck.

Bickel said he had no idea where the "terrorist" idea came from, but he acknowledged that blaming the utilities commission was "a mistake" by one of his employees.

In truth, the company requested new rates, which were approved. The new rates include a flat pack-out rate of \$1.95 per month with a limit of 50 feet. Before, rates varied by distance.

"We feel sorry for these situations, but we have to think of what is right overall for the business," Bickel told the Kitsap Sun.

That was before Zana Gearllach took a final stab at the problem. Gearllach, who holds a college degree in business administration and volunteers at Kitsap Lake Elementary School library, obtained the recent "tariff" for Brem-Air. She studied the 38-page document, which spells out rates and operating conditions.

She learned that garbage trucks may drive down someone's driveway under certain conditions, and she asked Brem-Air to consider that option.

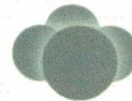
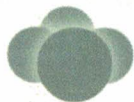
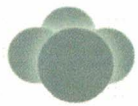
Company officials came to her house. They concluded that the asphalt surface was too thin to bear the weight of a heavy garbage truck. But a closer look at access and visibility at her home resulted in a new solution.

If Gearllach would place her garbage can in her driveway just outside the garage, instead of alongside of the house, it would be about 55 feet from the road — close enough under the circumstances, Bickel said.

"We just compromised," he noted.

Gearllach said she was pleased with the outcome, but she always placed her can in that location.

The bottom line, she says, is that customers should have been informed about the pack-out change, so people like her could object to state authorities before it was too late.



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