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February 6, 2004

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Ms. Carole J. Washburn
Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504

STATE OF WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

Attention: Deborah Reynolds

Re: Request for Exemption from Rule Re: WAC 480-70-401 on Behalf of Waste Connections of Washington, Inc., Certificate G-253, Island Disposal, Certificate G-153, Murrey's Disposal Company, Inc., Murrey's Disposal and d/b/a Olympic Disposal, Certificate G-9, American Disposal Company, Inc., Certificate G-87, and Mason County Garbage Company, Inc., Certificate G-88 (the "Waste Connections Companies")

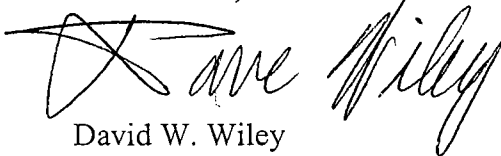
Dear Ms. Washburn:

Pursuant to WAC 480-70-051, this is to request that the Commission consider granting an exemption to the above-referenced payment rule for the Waste Connections regulated solid waste collections companies to allow them to accept payment by electronic funds transfer ("EFT"). As you will note, the current rule at WAC 480-70-401 does not include allowing acceptance of payments by electronic funds transfer. Since the rules were implemented in 2001, EFTs as a method of payment have become more and more commonplace in American industry. Software adjustments planned by the company over the next few months are being implemented to allow for alternative payment by electronic funds transfer. Thus, we are writing well in advance to seek permission to accept payment for regulated Washington customers by this method.

Should the staff have questions about safeguarding of data, methodology for acceptance of electronic funds transfer, or other technical questions, I invite such questions to be raised and will make sure and refer them to the appropriate information technology personnel in the region and/or at corporate headquarters of Waste Connections. Again, please contact me with further follow up questions that staff might have as you consider this important rule exemption. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours truly,

WILLIAMS, KASTNER & GIBBS PLLC



David W. Wiley

DAV:sr

cc: Eric Merrill
Brent Ditton

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