

Yakima Waste Systems, Inc.  
PO Box 2830  
Yakima, WA 98907

March 9, 2023

Ms. Amanda Maxwell  
Executive Director and Secretary  
Attn: Records Section  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
621 Woodland Square Loop SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

RE: Tariff Revision to Item 240-Container Service—Dumped in Company's Vehicle due to changes in Company Operations--for Yakima Waste Systems, Inc., Certificate Number G-89

Dear Mr. Maxwell:

As a part of recent and ongoing automation efforts to improve safety and efficiencies, Yakima Waste Systems (YWS) is in the process of replacing residential can service with carts. Automated equipment can safely collect dozens of homes per hour, but it cannot collect commercial containers. The rear-load vehicles being phased out are more flexible in their capabilities but are several magnitudes slower and less safe than the side-load trucks used for carts. Cart service meets the volume needs of most single-family residences and is the standard service throughout the US.

Historically, a large number of YWS household customers have opted for container service because an anomaly in the 1.5-yard weekly service rate makes the service appealing. In developing rates for automation, YWS and UTC staff made assumptions that 635 single family homes would convert to cart service in the first phase of automation, leaving containers only for commercial businesses that require high-volume service. With fewer containers in the area, YWS can service the entire regulated area with fewer rear-load vehicles.

With this filing, YWS is not requesting a change in rates. Instead, YWS requests additional language under Item 240: Container Service clearly stating that container service is intended for commercial business. Customers who cannot demonstrate that they are a business would not qualify for regular container service. Under this proposal, single family customers may still choose container service, but only at substantially higher pricing for on-call collection charges. Single families who operate businesses on their properties that qualify as such under WAC 480-70-041 would be able to continue their current service under the commercial rate table. We

respectfully request this filing to become effective May 1, 2023.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at (360) 693-4912 or via email at [Joseph.Wonderlick@WasteConnections.com](mailto:Joseph.Wonderlick@WasteConnections.com)

Sincerely,

*Joe Wonderlick*

Waste Connections  
Pricing Manager