Service Date: May 31, 2018

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Petition of

WASTE MANAGEMENT OF WASHINGTON, INC. d/b/a WM -HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS OF WASHINGTON,

Petitioner,

Seeking Exemption from the Provisions of WAC 480-07-520(4) Relating to work papers

DOCKET TG-180230

ORDER 01

ORDER GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM RULE

BACKGROUND

- On March 15, 2018, Waste Management of Washington, Inc. d/b/a WM Healthcare Solutions of Washington (Healthcare Solutions or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition requesting an exemption from WAC 480-07-520(4) (Petition).
- WAC 480-07-520(4) requires solid waste companies to provide financial data to include an income statement, balance sheet, depreciation schedule, computed average investment, price-out, and supporting documents for restating and pro forma adjustments.
- In its Petition, Healthcare Solutions states, "in previous cases, the Commission concluded that granting an exemption was in the public interest and met the standards for consideration of a rule exemption under WAC 480-07-110(c) and the same policy applies in this filing."¹
- Commission staff (Staff) reviewed the Petition and recommends granting Healthcare Solutions' request for exemption because the Company has provided all the necessary work papers and financial records as they pertain to Healthcare Solutions' operations, and any required work papers for any affiliate or parent company as requested by Staff.

¹ See Dockets TG-140471, TG-143115 and TG-151382.

DISCUSSION

The Commission concurs with Staff's recommendation and grants the Company's Petition for exemptions from the work paper filing requirement. The purpose of the work paper filing requirement in WAC 480-07-520 is to provide the Commission with information to determine whether a proposed rate increase is fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient. Here, the Company has provided adequate information to enable the Commission to make that determination as it relates to Healthcare Solutions. The financial records for the parent company's other business units are not relevant to this tariff revision. Accordingly, an exemption from this requirement is consistent with the public interest and the purposes underlying the rule, and should be granted.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The 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.
- 7 (2) Healthcare Solutions is engaged in the business of providing solid waste services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 8 (3) Healthcare Solutions is subject to WAC 480-07-520(4), which requires solid waste companies to provide financial data to include an income statement, balance sheet, depreciation schedule, computed average investment, price-out and supporting documents for restating and pro forma adjustments.
- 9 (4) Under WAC 480-70-051, the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in WAC 480-70, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes. See also WAC 480-07-110.
- 10 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 31, 2018.
- After review of the petition filed in Docket TG-180230 by Healthcare Solutions on March 15, 2018, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the exemption is in the public interest and is consistent with the purposes underlying the regulation and applicable statues and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- Waste Management of Washington, Inc. d/b/a WM Healthcare Solutions of Washington's Petition for an exemption from WAC 480-07-520 (4), work papers, for the purpose of requiring WAC 480-07-520(4), work paper, to only the filing entity is granted.
- The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Waste Management of Washington, Inc. d/b/a WM Healthcare Solutions of Washington to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective May 31, 2018.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Chairman

ANN E. RENDAHL, Commissioner

JAY M. BALASBAS, Commissioner