

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24

Before the
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

In the Matter of the Application of Waste Management of Washington, Inc.
D/B/A WM Healthcare Solutions of Washington
Docket No. TG-120033

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF EMILY NEWCOMER
On behalf of Waste Management of Washington, Inc.

October 1, 2012

1 **Q. Please state your name and business address.**

2 A. My name is Emily Newcomer. My business address is 1137 NE Boat Street, Seattle,
3 WA 98105.

4 **Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?**

5 A. I am employed by the University of Washington as Recycling and Solid Waste Program
6 Operations Manager.

7 **Q. Would you please describe your educational background and professional
8 employment experience?**

9 A. I received a BA in Communications from California State University, Sacramento and a
10 Masters in Public Administration from the Evans School of Public Affairs at the
11 University of Washington. I have worked in the waste industry for six years, primarily
12 in waste diversion program development, education and outreach.

13 **Q. What are your primary responsibilities for the University of Washington?**

14 A. I manage operations for solid waste and recycling contracting for the Seattle campus of
15 the University of Washington.

16 **Q. What are the subjects of the testimony you are offering today?**

17 A. I will testify about the reasons why the University of Washington supports Waste
18 Management of Washington, Inc.'s application for statewide authority to provide
19 regulated biomedical waste services ("RMW").

20 **Q. Which entities currently provide waste collection services to the University of
21 Washington's Seattle campus?**

22 A. Waste Management has provided solid waste services to the Seattle campus for many
23 years. Before Waste Management obtained authority to provide RMW services in its
24

1 UTC territory, the Seattle campus contracted with Stericycle of Washington, Inc.
2 (“Stericycle”) to collect RMW from the laboratories at the University’s academic
3 buildings and at offsite locations. Stericycle transports the University’s RMW for
4 processing at Stericycle’s Lewis County facility. Since Waste Management obtained
5 RMW authority in its UTC territory, the University has contracted with Waste
6 Management to collect and segregate the treated medical waste from the University’s
7 steam sterilization facility and to dispose of the sterilized waste at Waste Management’s
8 Washington landfill. When the University’s steam sterilization facility is shut down for
9 maintenance, as it is this week, Waste Management collects the RMW, processes it at
10 Waste Management’s Seattle facility, and disposes the treated waste at its Washington
11 landfill.

12 **Q. Can Waste Management serve the other University of Washington campuses?**

13 A. Waste Management cannot presently provide service to the University’s Tacoma
14 campus because it is outside of Waste Management’s UTC territory.

15 **Q. Do you support Waste Management’s application for statewide authority?**

16 A. Yes.

17 **Q. Why do you support this application?**

18 A. The University of Washington recognizes that the local, Seattle-based processing of
19 RMW provided by Waste Management offers environmental and emission reduction
20 benefits through reduced transportation time. In addition local processing reduces the
21 time that untreated RMW waste is in transport, thus reducing the University’s liability
22 associated with the untreated RMW. The greater travel time to Stericycle’s processing
23 plant in Morton, Washington increases the University’s risk of liability associated with
24

1 the RMW. If Waste Management's application is granted, the University of
2 Washington will be able to use Waste Management's local processing services for the
3 Tacoma campus.

4 **Q. Are there other reasons why you support this application?**

5 A. The University of Washington strongly favors competition among RMW service
6 providers because competition will yield true market prices for the services and will
7 allow the University leverage to ensure that it gets responsive service. The University
8 of Washington has found Stericycle's customer service to be only adequately
9 responsive. To obtain Stericycle's attention to issues raised by the University's
10 Infectious Waste Committee regarding waste flow and processing, the University is
11 required to take the additional step of including the Stericycle salespeople in the
12 process. To the contrary, Waste Management has provided excellent customer service
13 to the University of Washington. With Statewide authority for Waste Management, the
14 University of Washington will be assured of the best RMW service for all of its
15 campuses because inadequate service will result in a change in service providers.

16 **Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?**

17 A. Yes.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served this document upon all parties of record in this proceeding, by the method indicated below, pursuant to WAC 480-07-150.

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250 360-664-1160 records@utc.wa.gov	<input type="checkbox"/> Via Legal Messenger <input type="checkbox"/> Via Facsimile <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Federal Express <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Email
Gregory J. Kopta Administrative Law Judge Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission gkopta@utc.wa.gov	<input type="checkbox"/> Via Legal Messenger <input type="checkbox"/> Via Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Via U.S. Mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Email
Fronda Woods Attorney General's Office of Washington PO Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504 (360) 664-1225 fwoods@utc.wa.gov bdemarco@utc.wa.gov	<input type="checkbox"/> Via Legal Messenger <input type="checkbox"/> Via Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Via U.S. Mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Email
Stephen B. Johnson Jared Van Kirk Garvey Schubert Barer 1191 Second Avenue, Suite 1800 Seattle, WA 98101 (206) 464-3939 sjohnson@gsblaw.com jvankirk@gsblaw.com vowen@gsblaw.com dbarrientes@gsblaw.com <i>Attorneys for Stericycle of Washington, Inc.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Via Legal Messenger <input type="checkbox"/> Via Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Via U.S. Mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Email
James K. Sells 3110 Judson Street Gig Harbor, WA 98335 (360) 981-0168 jamesells@comcast.net cheryls@rsulaw.com <i>Attorney for Protestant WRRRA, Rubatino, Consolidated, Murrey's, and Pullman</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Via Legal Messenger <input type="checkbox"/> Via Facsimile <input type="checkbox"/> Via U.S. Mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Via Email

DATED at Seattle, Washington, this 1st day of October, 2012.

Nancy Boddy

Direct Testimony of Emily Newcomer