

# 1683

RECEIVED  
OCT 12 2006  
WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

October 10, 2006

John Prevost  
2704 NW 142 CIR  
Vancouver, WA 98685

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
Attn: Secretary  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Re: Proposed Rate Increase – Waste Connections – “Too High” ?

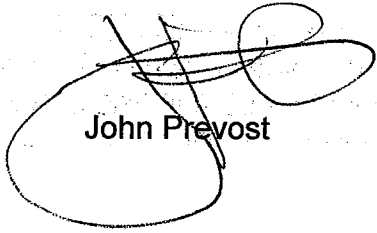
Just a note to the Commission to state my concern and confusion over the proposed percent increase in garbage collection in my area. Hopefully Waste Connections has cost information to justify their proposed increase. That information was not shared in the September 29, 2006 letter I received. Thank you for “watching” this area.

My letter indicated 32-Gallon can rates for every-other-week, weekly, and two cans weekly would increase 5.7%, 8.5%, and 26% respectively. Assuming the proportion of their hauls, respectively, are 20%, 40%, and 30% then the proposed overall increase would be 12.34%. I would expect fuel cost increases to be a main driver but do not know the percentage of their operational costs that come from fuel. Most often we are hearing of CPI increases in the 3% range. So, why a proposed 12+% increase?

I think it “good sense” that the rate increases are higher with increasing volume picked up. This helps drive “waste minimization” efforts in the home.

I thank you, Commission, for looking out for the public good in this area. I would hope that any increase would come out with more information on the “Why”.

Sincerely,

  
John Prevost

RECEIVED  
OCT 12 2006  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS