BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE

**UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,  Complainant,  v.  FIORITO ENTERPRISES, INC., & RABANCO COMPANIES  d/b/a KENT MERIDIAN DISPOSAL COMPANY,  d/b/a KENT DISPOSAL  d/b/a MERIDIAN VALLEY DISPOSAL, G-60  Respondent.  . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) ) )  )  )  )  )  ) | DOCKET TG-111994  ORDER 02  ORDER DISMISSING COMPLAINT AND ORDER SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS; ALLOWING REVISED TARIFF REVISIONS |

**BACKGROUND**

1. On November 17, 2011, Fiorito Enterprises, Inc., & Rabanco Companies d/b/a Kent Meridian Disposal Company, d/b/a Kent Disposal, d/b/a Meridian Valley Disposal (Kent Meridian or Company), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff No. 27. The stated effective date is January 1, 2012.
2. In this filing, Kent Meridian proposes a general rate increase that increases residential and commercial garbage rates, due, in part, to a January 1, 2012, increase in King County disposal fees. The filing also proposes to increase rates for drop box, residential and multi-family recycling, and yard waste collection services. Kent Meridian’s proposed rates are designed to increase revenues by $924,600 (8.4 percent) annually.
3. On December 29, 2011, the Commission issued a Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions and allowed temporary rates, subject to refund, to recover just the disposal portion of the proposed rates, pending an investigation to determine whether the revisions are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
4. Staff has completed its review of the Company’s books and records. Staff’s analysis shows that the proposed rates result in excessive revenue. Staff and the Company agreed to a revised revenue requirement of $859,000 (7.8 percent) additional annual revenue. On February 17, 2012, Kent Meridian filed revised rates at Staff recommended levels.

**FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS**

1. (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, regulations, practices, accounts and affiliated interests of public service companies, including solid waste companies. RCW 80.01.040*,* RCW 81.01*,* RCW 81.04*,* RCW 81.16*,* RCW 81.28 *and* RCW 81.77*.*
2. (2) Kent Meridian is a solid waste company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
3. (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 23, 2012.
4. (4) The proposed tariff revisions presently under suspension would result in excessive revenue. Staff and the Company agreed to a revised revenue requirement of $859,000 (7.8 percent) in additional annual revenue. On February 17, 2012, Kent Meridian filed revised rates at Staff recommended levels. The revised rates are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient because the Company has demonstrated the expenses are reasonable and required as part of the Company’s operation.
5. (5) After reviewing the tariff revisions Kent Meridian filed in Docket TG-111994 and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public interest to dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket TG-111994, and allow the revised tariff revisions filed on February 17, 2012, to become effective March 1, 2012.

**ORDER**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

1. (1) The Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket TG-111994, entered on December 29, 2011, is dismissed.
2. (2) The revised tariff revisions Fiorito Enterprises, Inc., & Rabanco Companies d/b/a Kent Meridian Disposal Company, d/b/a Kent Disposal, d/b/a Meridian Valley Disposal filed in this docket on February 17, 2012, shall become effective on March 1, 2012.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective February 23, 2012.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner