SERVICE DATE

DEC 7 1990

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of Fuel Surcharge
Supplements to Tariff No. 9
Issued by Sno-King Garbage
Company, Inc., G-126

ALLOWING AMENDMENT OF RATES
AUTHORIZED ON A TEMPORARY
BASIS SUBJECT TO REFUND

and
DOCKET NO. TG-901438

ORDER ALLOWING FUEL
SURCHARGES TO BE APPLIED

On June 29, 1990, Sno-King Garbage Company, Inc., G-126, filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission revisions to its tariff to become effective August 1, 1990.

On July 30, 1990, the filing was suspended to allow for further investigation to ensure the rights and interests of the public would not be injuriously affected.

On July 30, 1990, the Commission ordered temporary rates subject to refund be allowed.

On October 3, 1990, a petition was received from the solid waste collection company, seeking a one percent fuel surcharge to apply on their Tariff No. 9 to offset recent increased fuel prices.

At the Commission's open public meeting of October 10, 1990, Commission staff recommended granting the fuel surcharge as requested by the carrier. Staff further recommended that in order to protect the rights of the general public the surcharge should be granted subject to a sixty-day expiration date. The carrier's application was granted, the surcharge being authorized to be effective from October 11, 1990 through December 10, 1990.

On November 28, 1990, a petition was received from the solid waste collection company, seeking a one percent surcharge to apply on their Tariff No. 9 to replace the original fuel surcharge which expires December 10, 1990. This fuel surcharge is to offset continued increased fuel prices.

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At the Commission's open public meeting of December 5, 1990, Commission staff recommended granting the second surcharge petition, again subject to a sixty-day expiration date.

Having given full consideration to the petition, the staff evaluation and recommendations, and pursuant to action taken at the December 5, 1990 open meeting the Commission finds that a fuel surcharge is necessary at this time to provide the standards of service needed by the public.

The Commission also finds that to protect the public interest, the surcharge should expire sixty days following the date upon which it becomes effective.

The Commission also finds that notice must be given affected customers regarding fuel surcharges. To that end, the Commission has approved the following language to be used by carriers implementing a fuel surcharge:

"The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission has approved a fuel surcharge to allow garbage companies to cover the rising costs of fuel. The fuel surcharge appears on this bill. The surcharge is approved for 60 days and will reflect changes in fuel prices based on a review conducted by the Commission. The surcharge will automatically expire after 60 days. The company may then file to retain or adjust the surcharge based on the current cost of fuel. This surcharge process will be in effect until the cost of fuel has stabilized."

If the solid waste collection company provided adequate customer notice in accordance with the guidelines shown above in connection with their original fuel surcharge, no additional notice need be given. If the company did not provide such notice, on or with the first customer notice that included the original surcharge, customer notice must be given.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED Sno-King Garbage Company, Inc., G-126, shall be authorized to publish a fuel surcharge supplement in the amount of one percent to apply on their Tariff No. 9.

IT IS ORDERED That the fuel surcharge shall become effective on December 11, 1990.

IT IS ORDERED That the fuel surcharge shall expire at 12:00 midnight on February 9, 1991.

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IT IS ORDERED That Sno-King Garbage Company, Inc., G-126, shall notify their customers of the fuel surcharge by on or with the first bill which includes the surcharge providing all customers with the Commission-approved language regarding surcharges.

IT IS ORDERED That filing TG-900657 shall remain suspended pending investigation and that no further changes may be made in the suspended rates during the period of suspension or any extension, unless specifically authorized by the Commission. Further, if refunds are ordered in filing TG-900657, any revenues accruing from application of the fuel surcharge on the rates and charges found to be excessive may also be ordered refunded by the Commission.

DATED and signed at Olympia, Washington this 5 day of December 1990.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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SHARON L. NELSON, Chairman

RICHARD D. CASAD, Commissioner

A. J. PARDINI, Commissioner