BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

DOCKET TG-140560

JOINT MOTION TO AMEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

v.

WASTE CONTROL, INC.,

Respondent.

I. JOINT MOTION TO AMEND THE PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

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Commission Staff ("Staff") and Waste Control Inc. ("WCI" or "Company") hereby file a joint motion requesting that the Commission adopt a briefing schedule with deadlines on November 7, 2014, and November 20, 2014, for initial and reply briefs, respectively. The Parties proposed briefing schedule would displace an evidentiary hearing.

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The Parties have reached a partial settlement to resolve several previously-contested issues in Docket TG-140560. Due to the context and limited nature of the remaining issues in dispute, Staff and the Company ask that a paper record of briefs take the place of an evidentiary hearing. The Parties' proposal promotes judicial economy and avoids the now-unnecessary costs associated with an extended evidentiary hearing. Staff and the Company are available for a status conference to discuss the Parties' joint motion or the status of remaining contested issues.

II. WAC 480-07-375

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Under WAC 480-07-375(1)(b), a procedural motion includes any request to establish or modify the process or the procedural schedule in a proceeding. The Commission will generally grant a joint request to change a procedural schedule unless it is against the public interest or contravenes the Commission's administrative needs. WAC 480-07-385(2).

III. SUMMARY OF REMAINING ISSUES IN DISPUTE

Staff and the Company have reached settlement terms for several contested issues.

The only remaining disputed issues are listed and briefly described below.

Methodology to allocate common utility costs. The Company shares several facilities with affiliated entities. Staff and the Company continue to disagree on an appropriate methodology and result for allocating those facilities' utility costs to the regulated Company.

Appropriate inputs for calculating affiliate land rents. WCI leases real property from an affiliate. Both Staff and the Company agree to the general methodology from a previous Commission Order¹ calculating fair lease payments to an affiliate; however, the Parties disagree as to the appropriate inputs for cost of equity, cost of debt, capital structure, and the correct methodology for allocating costs.

Rate Case Costs and Investigation Fees. The record in this case also includes a previous docket, TG-131794. Staff proposes to allow the Company to recover 100% of Docket TG-131794-rate case costs incurred prior to December 24, 2013, 50% of Docket TG-131794-rate case costs incurred from December 24, 2013, through March 25, 2014, and 50% of all rate case costs associated with Docket TG-140560. Aside from the aggregate percentage totals and assuming any additional updated amounts of time are reasonable, Staff does not contest the cumulative total or hourly rates associated with professional fees comprising the rate case costs. The Company seeks to recover 100% of rate cases costs associated with Dockets TG-131794 and TG-140560.

JOINT MOTION TO AMEND PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE- 2

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 $^{^1}$ WUTC v. Bremerton-Kitsap Airporter, Inc., Docket TC-001846, Fifth Supplemental Order, pp. 14-15 and Appendix C.

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Investigation Costs. Staff recommends the Commission require WCI to pay investigation fees under RCW 81.20.020. The Company contests any obligation to pay investigation fees.

IV. PROPOSED SCHEDULE

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The Parties propose the Commission adopt the following abbreviated procedural schedule. The Parties will provide initial briefs and supplemental testimony on the remaining contested accounting adjustment issues with the parties reserving the right to object to information provided in briefing or supplemental testimony with such opening briefing and testimony to be filed on or before November 7, 2014. The Parties will provide reply briefs on or before November 20, 2014, if necessary.

V. CONCLUSION

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For the above reasons, Waste Control, Inc. and Commission Staff respectfully request the Commission grant this Joint Motion to adopt the briefing schedule proposed by the Parties.

DATED this 23rd day of October 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT W. FERGUSON

Attorney General

BRETT P. SHEARER

Assistant Attorney General

Counsel for Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Staff

DAVID W. WILEY

Williams Kastner

Counsel for Waste Control, Inc.

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V. CONCLUSION

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For the above reasons, Waste Control, Inc. and Commission Staff respectfully request the Commission grant this Joint Motion to adopt the briefing schedule proposed by the Parties.

DATED this 21st day of October 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT W. FERGUSON Attorney General

BRETT P. SHEARER Assistant Attorney General

Counsel for Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Staff Williams Kastner

Counsel for Waste Control, Inc.