Agenda Date: March 12, 2004

Item Number: B1

Docket: TG-040157 Redesign of Class A & B Solid Waste Annual Reports

Staff: Bob Colbo, Transportation Program Staff

Nicki Johnson, Regulatory Analyst

Recommendation:

Adopt the newly proposed, combined Class A & B Solid Waste Annual Report form.

Discussion:

The existing Commission Solid Waste Annual Report forms for Class A (\$5,000,000 and above annual, traditional, regulated, intrastate revenue,) and Class B (less than \$5,000,000 revenue) solid waste carriers have not been revised since 1993. Although Staff announced its intentions to review the forms as early as 2001, work began in earnest the latter part of 2002 and early 2003. A Staff Investigation in Docket TG-040157 began on February 5, 2004. The existing Class A report is 46 pages, and the Class B report is 21 pages; the new combined Class A & B report is 16 pages.

Staff distributed preliminary drafts of the newly proposed combined Class A & B form to key industry personnel prior to a February 24, 2004, meeting here in Olympia. Based on those discussions, additional revisions were made and re-distributed on February 27, 2004. Since then additional statutorily-required questions regarding costs of accidents, number of shareholders, and a schedule classifying number of employees and their compensation have been added (currently included in the existing annual reports.) There is general consensus with the industry to move forward and recommend that the new form be adopted for year 2003 reporting due May 1, 2004, although there is limited concern regarding city contracts (see below) and the cost of accidents information. The Commission routinely gets requests from within the agency, other agencies, cities and counties, and the legislature regarding which carrier serves which area, including cities, and whether such service is regulated or non-regulated.

Generally non-essential supporting schedules and detailed allocations between regulated and non-regulated operations, and between specific regulated programs (e.g. garbage, residential recycling, multi-family recycling, and yardwaste, etc.,) are eliminated. Such information is either not required, not regulated, not supplied, or is unreliable in this context. Key or related-person specific payroll and fringe benefit schedules are also eliminated. Itemized equipment lists in the current Class A report is also eliminated, as are all existing affiliated interest questions pending developments in Docket A-021178 - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (CR-102.)

New schedules ask for:

• Each regulated recycle commodity collected, its annual tonnage, and the revenue derived from its sale

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• A listing of each city that the carrier provided contract operations in during the year, the types of service provided under each contract, and the combined revenue from all contracts

Staff recommends that the Commission adopt the newly proposed, combined Class A & B Solid Waste Annual Report form.

Attachment