

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition

of

ISLAND DISPOSAL, INC.,

Petitioner,

For Continuance of the General Rate
Increase Proceeding Previously Ordered

DOCKET TG-220100

ORDER 02

GRANTING MOTION FOR
CONTINUANCE

BACKGROUND

- 1 On February 11, 2022, Island Disposal, Inc., (Island Disposal or Company) filed a general rate case with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission). On March 24, 2022, the Commission entered Order 01, Allowing Tariff Revisions to go into Effect by Operation of Law; Requiring General Rate Filing (Order 01).
- 2 Commission staff (Staff) submits that in its review of the February 11 general rate case filing, it was unable to consider a full test year of financial information due to the Company completing its conversion to automated routes at the end of December 2021. Staff notes that Order 01 allowed the rates to go into effect subject to the condition that Island Disposal file its next general rate case with an effective date of November 1, 2023, to allow for potential rate adjustments.
- 3 On September 28, 2023, Island Disposal filed with the Commission a petition seeking a continuance of the filing deadline established by Order 01 (Petition). The Company requests a 6-month extension until May 1, 2024. The Company requests the extension to: (1) allow the recently hired controller to better understand the Company’s accounting and reporting systems; (2) allow Island Disposal to complete work with Island County and community groups to implement a recycling program; (3) avoid a second general rate filing in early 2024 if the recycling program is implemented; and, (4) allow Island Disposal to collect additional labor information as the reduction in labor appears to have been overestimated.
- 4 Staff reviewed the Company’s Petition and recommends granting the Company a continuance.

DISCUSSION

5 We grant Island Disposal's Petition to continue the deadline established by Order 01 until
6 May 1, 2024.

6 WAC 480-07-385 permits an effected party to request a continuance of any deadline
7 established by a Commission order provided such a request is made at least five business
8 days prior to the deadline at issue. Here, Island Disposal filed its request for continuance
9 on September 28, 2023, which is 24 business days prior to the November 1, 2023,
10 deadline. The Commission will grant a continuance if the requesting party demonstrates
11 good cause for the continuance and the continuance will not prejudice any party or the
12 Commission.

7 We agree with Staff that good cause exists to grant the Petition because it will allow
8 Island Disposal time to file a general rate case, which will prevent duplicative costs of a
9 second general rate proceeding when recycling services are implemented and improve the
10 accuracy and reliability of information provided by the Company is thus consistent with
11 the public interest.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 8 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the
9 authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities,
10 transfers of property, and affiliated interests of public service companies, including
11 solid waste collection companies.
- 9 (2) Island Disposal is a solid waste collection company and a public service company
10 subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 10 (3) The original proposed effective date for the Company's compliance filing in Docket
11 TG-220100 was November 1, 2023, as required by Order 01.
- 11 (4) Under WAC 480-07-385(2)(a), any party may request by oral or written motion a
12 continuance of a deadline established by Commission order. The Commission will
grant a continuance if the requesting party demonstrates good cause for the
continuance and the continuance will not prejudice any party or the Commission.
- 12 (5) On September 28, 2023, Island Disposal filed a request that the Commission extend

the deadline established Order 01 and allow the Company to file a general rate case, with an effective date no later than May 1, 2024.

- 13 (6) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on October 26, 2023.
- 14 (7) After reviewing Island Disposal's Petition and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds that the continuance will not prejudice any party or the Commission and that it should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION:

- 15 (1) Island Disposal, Inc.'s Petition is granted. Island Disposal, Inc. must file a general rate case with an effective date no later than May 1, 2024.
- 16 (2) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Island Disposal, Inc. to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective October 26, 2023.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

KATHY HUNTER
Acting Executive Director and Secretary