

Agenda Date: June 29, 2023  
Item Number: B2

**Docket:** TG-230375  
**Company:** Ada-Lin Waste Systems, Inc. d/b/a Sunshine Disposal & Recycling

**Staff:** Benjamin Sharbono, Regulatory Analyst.  
John Cupp, Regulatory Analyst

**Recommendation**

Take no action, allowing the tariff revisions and rates, filed on May 15, 2023, to go into effect July 1, 2023, by operation of law.

**Discussion**

On May 15, 2023, Ada-Lin Waste Systems, Inc. d/a/a Sunshine Disposal & Recycling (Ada-Lin or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) tariff revisions that would generate approximately \$185,000 (18.0 percent) in additional annual revenue and revises Item 30, Limitation of Service. Ada-Lin provides regulated garbage services to approximately 303 residential, 900 commercial, and 20 drop-box customers in Adams and Lincoln Counties. The Company’s last general rate increase became effective October 1, 2010.

The primary drivers of the request are increases in operating expenses, replacement of almost all capital assets since the last general rate increase.

As part of the review, Commission staff (Staff) reviewed the Company’s asset invoices and depreciation schedule, updated the fuel expenses to the most recent 12-month period as required by WAC 480-70-346, and reviewed the general ledger transactions of Ada-Lin and its affiliated operations. Staff’s adjustments had no material effect on the additional revenue requested. The Company has demonstrated that the costs are required and necessary to provide service and that the rates are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

**Rate Comparison**

The table below shows the current, Company-proposed, and Staff-revised rates, for the most common services. The full list of rates is included in the Company’s tariff.

<b>Most Common Lines of Service</b>	<b>Current Rate</b>	<b>Proposed Rate</b>	<b>Difference</b>	
1-Can Weekly	\$25.17	\$30.04	\$4.87	19.3%
2-Cans Weekly	\$35.06	\$41.88	\$6.82	19.5%
2-Yard, per Pickup	\$39.87	\$47.77	\$7.90	19.8%

### **Customer Comments**

On May 30, 2023, the Company notified its customers by mail of the proposed rate increase. Staff received one comment.

### **Customer Comments**

The commenter believes the rate for commercial container rental is excessive in proportion to the actual cost of the containers. They believe the rental rates result in the Company collecting several times more than they paid for their containers. The commenter asks that the Company be required to justify its rate request in detail.

### **Staff Response**

Staff explained that state law requires rates to be fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient to allow the Company to recover reasonable operating expenses and the opportunity to earn a reasonable return on its investment. Customers were also told that Commission Staff performs a thorough review of rate filings to ensure all rates and fees are appropriate.

### **Conclusion**

Take no action, allowing the tariff revisions and rates, filed on May 15, 2023, to go into effect July 1, 2023, by operation of law.