

Agenda Date: April 25, 2024
Item Number: B1

Docket: TG-240111
Company: Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc. d/b/a Sanitary Disposal

Staff: Rachel Stark, Regulatory Services
Scott Sevall, Regulatory Services
Kris Irelan, Consumer Protection

Recommendation

To take no action, thereby allowing tariff pages filed by Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc. d/b/a Sanitary Disposal in Docket TG-240111, on February 15, 2024, and as revised on April 23, 2024, to become effective May 1, 2024, by operation of law.

Discussion

On February 15, 2024, Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc. d/b/a Sanitary Disposal (Sanitary Disposal or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) tariff revisions that as originally filed, would generate approximately \$263,600 (83 percent) additional revenue. The Company serves approximately 161 residential, 50 commercial, and 24 roll-off customers in Benton County.

Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc. acquired Sanitary Disposal, Inc. in 2021. Sanitary Disposal's last general rate case became effective August 1, 2008. Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc. d/b/a Sanitary Disposal recognizes the rate shock for its Sanitary Disposal customers and intends to file general rate case filings with regularity every 2-4 years, as well as file for tip fees increases as they occur.

The main driving force in this increase is due Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc. acquiring Sanitary Disposal, Inc. in 2021, but rates have not increased for these customers for 16 years. Additionally, the company seeks an increase due to increased operational expenses, payroll, and a truck purchase.

Commission Staff (Staff) has completed its review of the Company's supporting financial documents. The Company asked for \$263,614 in this filing. However, after its review, Staff found that the Company is entitled to a smaller amount than requested. Staff and the Company agreed to a revised revenue requirement of \$239,338 (75 percent) additional annual revenue. On April 23, 2024, the Company filed revised pages at staff recommended levels.

	Current Rate	Company Proposed Rate	Staff Revised Rate	Percent Increase
1 35-Gallon Cart Weekly	\$10.83	\$22.26	\$19.54	80%
1 90-Gallon Cart Weekly	\$17.24	\$35.43	\$31.10	80%
1 1.5 Yard	\$13.68	\$28.12	\$26.28	92%
Drop-Box Truck (truck and driver)	\$56.75	\$116.62	\$116.62	105%

Customer Comments

On February 16, 2024, the Company notified its customers by mail of the proposed rate increase. Staff have not received any customer comments.

Conclusion

Staff have completed their review of the Company's documentation. Staff's review shows that the tariff pages filed are reasonable and required as part of the Company's operations.

Recommendation

To take no action, thereby allowing tariff pages filed by Waste Connections of Oregon, Inc. d/b/a Sanitary Disposal in Docket TG-240111, on February 15, 2024, and as revised on April 23, 2024, to become effective May 1, 2024, by operation of law.