

Agenda Date: December 29, 2011
Item Number: B1

Docket: TG-111923
Company Name: Couse's Sanitation and Recycling, Inc., G-169

Staff: Nicki Johnson, Regulatory Analyst
Pam Smith, Consumer Protection Staff

Recommendation

Take no action, allowing the rates filed by Couse's Sanitation and Recycling, Inc., on November 7, 2011, to become effective January 1, 2012, by operation of law.

Discussion

On November 7, 2011, Couse's Sanitation and Recycling, Inc. (Couse's Sanitation or company), filed tariff revisions with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission). The proposed filing would generate approximately \$32,000 (11.1 percent) additional annual revenue. Couse's Sanitation serves approximately 450 residential and commercial customers in Ferry County. The filing is prompted by increases in labor benefits, equipment purchases and fuel expenses. The company's last general rate increase became effective on December 7, 2009.

Staff has completed its review of the company's supporting financial documents, books and records. Staff's review shows that the expenses are reasonable and required as part of the company's operation, the company's financial information supports the revenue requirement and the proposed rates and charges are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.

<u>Residential Monthly Rates</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Proposed Rate</u>	<u>Percent Increase</u>
One 32-Gallon Can Weekly Pick-up	\$ 18.18	\$ 20.36	12.0 %
Two 32-Gallon Cans Weekly Pick-up	\$ 23.69	\$ 26.53	12.0%
<u>Commercial Per Pick-up Rates</u>			
1.0-Yard Container	\$20.00	\$22.40	12.0%
4.0-Yard Container	\$57.62	\$64.53	12.0%
<u>Dropbox Per Hour Rates</u>			
20-Yard Drop Box (Non-Compacted)	\$90.16	\$100.98	12.0%

Customer Comments

On November 30, 2011, the company notified its customers of the proposed rate increase by mail. No customer comments have been received.

Conclusion

Staff recommends that the commission take no action, allowing the rates filed by Couse's Sanitation and Recycling, Inc., on November 7, 2011, to become effective January 1, 2012, by operation of law.