

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of)	DOCKET TL-042016
)	
US ECOLOGY, Inc., Applicant,)	ORDER NO. 01
)	
)	
)	ORDER GRANTING
)	APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER
For the Transfer of Property to)	OF ASSETS TO US ECOLOGY OF
US Ecology of Washington, Inc.)	WASHINGTON, INC.
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On November 16, 2004, US Ecology, Inc., filed an application for Order Authorizing transfer of property pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 81.12 RCW. The application seeks approval to transfer property from US Ecology, Inc., to a wholly owned subsidiary, US Ecology of Washington, Inc.

- 2 The intended benefit of the transfer is to provide a better separation of operations. The Washington operations of US Ecology, Inc., are an internal line of business of a large corporation. As a wholly owned subsidiary, operations would be reported as an independent company. The proposed transfer will be transparent to its customers. The name will change but operations and rates will not change due to this transfer

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 3 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 81.04 RCW; Chapter 81.12 RCW and Chapter 81.108 RCW.

- 4 (2) US Ecology, Inc., is an investor-owned company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 5 (3) US Ecology of Washington, Inc., is a Washington corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of US Ecology, Inc.
- 6 (4) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 29, 2004.
- 7 (5) As a result of this transfer of property, US Ecology of Washington, Inc., will adopt the tariff currently in effect and maintain the tariff rates of US Ecology, Inc.
- 8 (6) The proposed transfer will have an effective date of January 1, 2005.
- 9 (7) In this docket, the Commission neither approves nor disapproves the reasonableness of any fees, charges, rates, purchase price, or accounting allocations involved with the proposed arrangement and reserves the right to review those fees, charges, rates, or accounting allocations in a future rate proceeding.
- 10 (8) The application meets the requirements of Chapter 81.12 RCW.
- 11 (9) After review of the application filed in Docket TL-042016 by US Ecology, Inc., on November 16, 2004, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that Application of the Transfer of property by US Ecology, Inc., to US Ecology of Washington, Inc., is consistent with the public interest and should be authorized.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) The Commission authorizes the Transfer consistent with the application in accordance with RCW 81.12.020. No material change, revision, or amendment to the joining application and agreement shall become effective without the Commission's prior written approval. No material change, revision, or amendment to the application and agreement shall become effective without the Commission's prior written approval.
- 13 (2) U.S. Ecology of Washington, Inc., must file with the Commission a tariff adoption notice and an initial tariff within 30 days from the effective date of this order to allow US Ecology of Washington, Inc., to apply the existing rates of US Ecology, Inc.
- 14 (3) This Order shall in no way affect the authority of this Commission over rates, services, accounts, valuations, estimates, or determination of costs, or any matters whatsoever that may come before it, nor shall anything herein be construed as acquiescence in any estimate or determination of costs, or any valuation of property claimed or asserted.
- 15 (4) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and US Ecology, Inc., to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 29th day of December, 2004.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Commissioner

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner