

Ross B. Dunfee, P.E.
Director / County Engineer

Keith Martin
Solid Waste Manager

Area Code 509
Prosser 786-5611
Tri-Cities 736-3084
Ext. 5682
Fax 786-3438

Benton County

Department of Public Works

Solid Waste Department

Post Office Box 1001 - 14303 N. Hinzerling Rd.
Prosser, Washington 99350-0954

May 16, 2007

Penny Ingram
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

Re: Benton County Solid Waste Plan

Dear Penny:

During a phone conversation this morning you had several questions regarding the Benton County Solid Waste Plan. Below, I have addressed each question with a response. All responses will be incorporated in the final plan, (if they are satisfactory to the WUTC).

Question 1

Under the WUTC Cost Assessment, Table 4.1.4, "Tip Fee Forecast" there was no tip fee increases shown over a six-year period. Is this information correct?

Response 1

All haulers serving Benton County were asked to project their tip fee forecast over the next six years. Their responses are listed below.

1. **Horn Rapids** – (Year 1 No increase), (Years 2-3 maybe an increase), (Years 4-5-6 are likely, depending on results of a cost study). No actual forecasted values were given.
2. **BDI** - No anticipated increases over the next six years.
3. **Waste Management** – CPI adjustments are done each year. No actual forecasted values were given.
4. **Sanitary Disposal** – No anticipated increases over the next six years.

Question 2

Page 2-15 of the plan, 2nd Bullet, 3rd Sentence, states: "The County could adopt a service level ordinance to define rate policy." Does the County plan on adopting a service level ordinance to determine rates?

Response 2

This sentence will be deleted. WUTC has authority over counties regarding rate determinations.

Please contact me at (509) 539-5432 if you have any other questions or to expound on the answers given.

Sincerely,
Keith Martin
Benton County Solid Waste Manager