

December 16, 2008

David Danner, Executive Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

RE: Residential Recycling and Yardwaste Rate Increase

Dear Mr. Danner:

Enclosed are revisions to Solid Waste Tariff No. 6 for Permit G-14. These tariff pages have an issue date of December 16, 2008, with an effective date of February 1, 2009.

This filing is necessary due to several factors. On January 01, 2009, our collective bargaining agreement with drivers requires increases in both wages and benefits. Payroll tax, fuel expense and other operating costs have also increased.

The base rate for the recycling collection component of a customer's rate is increasing from \$3.73 per month to \$4.13 per month. The annual impact will be to increase recycle revenues by \$83,633 (10.78%).

The base rate for yard waste service is increasing from \$10.00 to \$10.70. The annual impact will increase yardwaste revenue by \$7,238 (7.00%).

Work papers supporting these changes have been sent Commission staff. The customer notice for affected customers will be sent out before the end of the year.

If you have any questions relating to this matter, please contact me at (360) 734-3490.

Sincerely,

Ed Nikula
Vice President

cc: Whatcom County Council
City of Ferndale
Penni Lamperes
Lisa Meucci

City of Bellingham
Bellingham Herald
Jeff Williamson
Polly McNeill