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TG-210404

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FROM: Benjamin Sharbono
DATE: October 19, 2021
SUBJECT: TG-210404, Fiorito Enterprises, Inc. & Rabanco Companies

Discussion:

Fiorito Enterprises, Inc. & Rabanco Companies d/b/a Kent Meridian Disposal Company (Kent Meridian or company) is a Class “A” solid waste company as defined in WAC 480-70-041 with over \$13.3 million in regulated intrastate gross revenues. As required in WAC 480-70-079, the company filed on May 27, 2021, with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC or commission) a report on its affiliated interest and subsidiary transactions.

Scope of Staff Investigation:

Staff will examine the filing in UTC Docket TG-210404 and answer the following questions:

1. Does the information provided by the company meet the requirements of WAC 480-70-079?
2. As a result of examining the transactions contained in this filing, what areas and elements of affiliate contracts and arrangements will need to be examined in a future rate case to validate that they are reasonable and consistent with the public interest?

Requirements set forth in WAC 480-70-079:

WAC 480-70-079 requires regulated solid waste companies to provide the commission with the following information relating to transactions between a regulated solid waste company and its affiliate(s):

<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Staff opinion</i>
Corporate organization chart of the company and its affiliated interests and subsidiaries (WAC 480-70-079 (2)).	Kent Meridian has met this requirement.

For 2020, Rabanco is reporting transactions with two separate affiliates. They are:

Rabanco Recycling Companies (G-12) – Provides post-collection services from one location in Seattle (processing value in 2020 was \$3,261,643).

Regional Disposal Companies – Provides processing of construction and demolition recyclable materials and transportation and disposal of residual material (value in 2020 was \$1,632,581).

<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Staff opinion</i>
<p>WAC 480-70-079 (3) states that if total transactions with an affiliated interest or a subsidiary are less than \$100,000 for the reporting period, the company must provide the name of the affiliated interest or subsidiary participating in the transactions and the total dollar amounts of the transactions.</p>	<p>None reported.</p>
<p>For transactions over \$100,000 the following information is also required by rule (WAC 480-70-079 (3) (a) through (g) and WAC 480-70-079 (4))</p>	
<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Staff opinion</i>
<p>Balance sheet and income statement for such affiliated interest (WAC 480-70-079 (3) (a)).</p>	<p>Kent Meridian has met this requirement.</p>
<p>Description of the products or services provided to or from the company and each such affiliated interest or subsidiary (WAC 480-70-079 (3) (b)).</p>	<p>Kent Meridian has met this requirement.</p>
<p>Description of the pricing basis or costing method, and procedures for allocating costs for such products or services, and the amount and accounts charged during the year (WAC 480-70-079 (3) (c)).</p>	<p>Kent Meridian has met this requirement.</p>
<p>Description of the terms of any loans between the company and each such affiliated interest or subsidiary and a listing of the year-end loan amounts and maximum loan amounts outstanding during the year (WAC 480-70-079 (3) (d)).</p>	<p>Reported none exist.</p>
<p>Description of the terms and total amount of any obligation or liability assumed by the company for each such affiliated interest or subsidiary (WAC 480-70-079 (3) (e)).</p>	<p>Reported none exist.</p>
<p>Description of the activities of each such affiliated interest or subsidiary with which the company has transactions (WAC 480-70-079 (3) (f)).</p>	<p>Kent Meridian has met this requirement.</p>

<i>Requirement</i>	<i>Staff opinion</i>
A list of all common officers and directors between the solid waste company and each such affiliated interest or subsidiary, along with their titles in each organization (WAC 480-70-079 (3) (g)).	Kent Meridian has met this requirement.
File copies of affiliated interest contracts and arrangements as stated in WAC 480-70-078 (WAC 480-70-079 (4)).	Reported none exist.

Areas and Elements for Examination in the Next Rate Case:

Kent Meridian's affiliated interest transactions relating to the cost of processing recyclable commodities should be examined in general rate cases along with disposal fees charged by Regional Disposal Company, if applicable. Allied/Republic Services does not charge its affiliates management fees but allocates costs for services performed at the corporate level, such as payroll processing and human resource services. These costs should be reviewed for reasonableness, and the allocation methodology to all affiliates examined.

Conclusion

Take no other action on this filing currently and close the docket.