

Waste Connections of Washington, Inc.

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Phone: (360) 892-5370

July 16, 2021

Mr. Mark L. Johnson
Executive Director and Secretary
Attn: Records Section
Washington Utilities and
Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

RE: Tariff Revision to Recover Incremental COVID 19 Costs – Waste Connections of Washington, Inc. Revised Tariff No. 3

Dear Mr. Johnson:

We respectfully ask that the Commission accept this filing to recover incremental COVID 19 costs, as explained below.

Overview

The Company proposes recovering \$236,200 of incremental COVID-19 costs, over a two-year period, beginning September 1, 2021. The two-year period is requested to minimize the monthly impact to customers. These costs include supplemental payments to all hourly employees, sanitary cleaning, and building and property expenses needed to maintain a safe work environment. The Company proposes the costs be recovered via an increase to each tariff rate, similar to a dump fee filing.

The increase is proposed as follows: Residential service \$75,200, 0.56%; commercial service \$35,700, 0.56%; and roll-off service \$7,800, 0.56%. There are approximately 70,700 residential; 4,200 commercial; and 300 roll-off customers affected by this change.

Rate Calculation

The Company tracks COVID-19 expenses in dedicated general ledger accounts. The regulated portion of those accounts for the period of March 1, 2020 – February 28, 2021 is \$236,200, or 1.11% of regulated revenue for the same period. Half of that percentage, as to allow for a two-year recovery, is \$118,100 or 0.56% of revenue. Each tariff rate will be increased by 0.56%. The Company has provided work papers with this filing, including a Price Out, to support the calculation and prove appropriate recovery of incremental COVID-19 costs.

Tariff Pages

The Company is submitting a new set of “COVID-19 cost recovery” tariff pages, separate from existing tariff pages, in order to clearly state the expiration date of the COVID-19 recovery rates. If subsequent rate increases occur, such as a dump fee increase, the Company will update both sets of tariff pages for the approved increase. When the two-year recovery period ends, the Company will start billing the rates on the current “non-COVID-19 cost recovery” tariff pages.

Filing Considerations

A rate increase notification letter will be mailed to all customers affected by these proposed changes no later than August 1, 2021. A notice letter will also be delivered on or before August 1, 2021 to the office of the Clark County Council Chair.

CONCLUSION

The company respectfully requests the Commission issue an order authorizing the Company to recover \$236,200 of COVID-19 incremental costs over a two-year period. The requested two year period begins September 1, 2021 and ends August 31, 2023.

If you have any questions regarding this filing, please contact me at (360) 695-4923, or via email at Heather.Garland@WasteConnections.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heather Garland", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Heather Garland
Pricing Manager