

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of

STERICYCLE OF
WASHINGTON INC.,

Seeking Exemption from the
Provisions of WAC 480-70-071
Relating to Filing of Annual
Reports by Solid Waste
Companies

DOCKET TG-230235

ORDER 01

GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM
RULE; GRANTING COMPANY
ADDITIONAL TIME TO FILE
ANNUAL REPORT

BACKGROUND

- 1 On April 7, 2023, Stericycle of Washington, Inc., (Stericycle or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a petition requesting an extension of time to file its 2022 annual report as required by WAC 480-70-071 (Petition). According to Stericycle, it is unable to prepare the report because Company staff is transitioning its accounting records from a local CPA firm to in-house. The Company seeks an extension to file its annual report until September 30, 2023.
- 2 Commission staff (Staff) reviewed the request and finds it reasonable, and recommends granting Stericycle's request for exemption, but notes that the Company's regulatory fee is still due in full by May 1, 2023.

DISCUSSION

- 3 The Commission may grant an extension for filing annual reports under WAC 480-70-071 if the extension request is filed before the May 1 due date. However, WAC 480-70-076(3) states the Commission does not grant extensions for payment of regulatory fees. We agree with Staff and grant the extension to file the annual report no later than September 30, 2023, but note that regulatory fees are still due by May 1, 2023, if the Company wishes to avoid accruing interest and incurring penalties.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, and affiliated interests of public service companies, including solid waste companies.
- 5 (2) Stericycle is a solid waste company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 6 (3) Stericycle is subject to WAC 480-70-071, which requires solid waste companies to file an annual report by May 1 of each year.
- 7 (4) Under WAC 480-70-071(1)(c), the Commission may grant an extension of time allowing the Company to file its annual report after the May 1 due date if the Commission receives a request for extension before May 1.
- 8 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 27, 2023.
- 9 (6) After reviewing the Petition filed in Docket TG-230235 by Stericycle on April 7, 2023, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that extending the deadline by which Stericycle must file an annual report is in the public interest, is consistent with the purposes underlying the regulation and applicable statutes, and that it should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 10 (1) Stericycle of Washington, Inc.'s, request for an extension until September 30, 2023, to file its 2022 annual report is granted.
- 11 (2) Failure by Stericycle of Washington, Inc., to file its 2022 annual report by September 30, 2023, will result in enforcement action, up to and including canceling Stericycle of Washington, Inc.'s, certificate.
- 12 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Stericycle of Washington, Inc., to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

13 The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective April 27, 2023.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

AMANDA MAXWELL
Executive Director and Secretary