

Agenda Date: June 13, 2001
Item Number: 3A

Docket: **TG-010611**

Company: Brem-Air Disposal, Inc., G-38
(A division of Waste Management, Inc.)

Staff: Bob Colbo, Transportation Program Staff

Recommendation:

Suspend the filing of Brem-Air Disposal, Inc., G-38, in Docket TG-010611.

Discussion:

On April 30, 2001, Brem-Air Disposal, Inc. (Brem-Air) filed a proposed new Tariff No. 16 with a stated effective date of June 15, 2001. The filing seeks to increase all residential and commercial rates by \$657,000 (7.89%). A Less Than Statutory Notice (LSN) request accompanied the filing seeking an earlier effective date of June 1, 2001. The Commission took no action on the LSN application at its Open Meeting on May 30, 2001.

The filing was made in compliance with the Fourth Supplemental Order dated May 27, 1999, in Causes TG-981565 (Brem-Air) and TG-981566 (North Sound Sanitation, Inc., G-59 (North Sound) which directed the company to refile after two years. Tariff 16 replaces Brem-Air Tariff No. 15 and North Sound Tariff No. 9. North Sound has since merged with Brem-Air and assumed its G-38 solid waste certificate and tariff.

The Commission has received 32 comments from the public. All are opposed to or concerned about Brem-Air's proposed rate increase. Most believe that the increase is unjust and unwarranted on principle alone. Many customers are unhappy with the service they are receiving in that garbage has been left on the streets and at pickup sites, or has not been picked up as promised. Many comments related to Brem-Air's recycling operation were also received, however, it is not regulated by the Commission and is instead served separately under contract with Kitsap County. Those comments indicate many of the customers are disappointed that the number and kinds of recyclables are limited, which results in increased landfill waste and larger can sizes. They would like to see the company pick up more recyclables.

The company has not yet demonstrated whether or not the proposals are fair, just, and reasonable. It is therefore recommended that the Commission suspend the filing of Brem-Air Disposal, Inc., G-38, in Docket TG-010611.