

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	DOCKET TG-090899
)	
Complainant,)	ORDER 03
)	
v.)	
)	ORDER DISMISSING
MASON COUNTY GARBAGE CO., INC., G-88)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
)	SUSPENDING TARIFF
)	REVISIONS; ALLOWING TARIFF
Respondent.)	REVISIONS TO BE PERMANENT
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On June 12, 2009, Mason County Garbage Co., Inc., (Mason County Garbage or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revised pages to its Tariff No. 13 designated as 27th Revised Page No. 1, 1st Revised Page No. 10, 2nd Revised Page No. 15, 2nd Revised Page No. 17, 1st Revised Page No. 19, 6th Revised Page No. 21, 2nd Revised Page No. 21A, 5th Revised Page No. 22, 2nd Revised Page No. 22A, 2nd Revised Page No. 23 and 2nd Revised Page No. 31. On July 23, 2009, Mason County Garbage filed substitute pages designated as 2nd Revised Page No. 15, 6th Revised Page No. 21, 2nd Revised Page No. 21A, 5th Revised Page No. 22 and 2nd Revised Page No. 22A.
- 2 The Company filed the proposed tariff changes to implement Mason County Ordinance No. 147-08. Ordinance 147-08 established a new countywide, mandatory-pay residential recycle collection program. In accordance with the provisions of RCW 81.77.030, the Commission is responsible for regulating solid waste collection companies by requiring compliance with local solid waste management plans and ordinances implementing those plans.
- 3 On August 13, 2009, the Commission entered a Complaint and Order Suspending the tariff revisions and substitute pages filed by the Company and allowed the proposed rate of \$8.18 per month to become effective on August 14, 2009, on a temporary basis, subject to refund. Because the proposed rate was based on estimated costs to provide the new service, Mason County Garbage had not demonstrated that the proposed rate was fair, just reasonable and sufficient. Thus, the Commission ordered the Company to

provide financial and operations reports after the new program was in operation. See Order 01, Docket TG-090899.

- 4 Mason County Garbage filed the required reports. Staff's review of the four-and-a-half months of data, indicates that the temporary rate of \$8.18 per month is supported by the financial data and is fair, just, reasonable and sufficient. Staff recommends that the Commission dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff and allow the temporary rate to become permanent on February 26, 2010.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation 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. *RCW 80.01.040, RCW 81.01, RCW 81.04, RCW 81.16, RCW 81.28 and RCW 81.77.*
- 6 (2) Mason County Garbage is a solid waste company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 7 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 25, 2010.
- 8 (4) The tariff revisions presently under suspension are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient as shown by the financial information filed by the Company that supports the residential recycling rate of \$8.18 per month.
- 9 (5) After reviewing the tariff revisions Mason County Garbage filed in Docket TG-090899 and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public interest to dismiss the Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket TG-090899, dated August 13, 2009, and allow the tariff revisions to Tariff No. 13 to become effective on February 26, 2010, on a permanent basis.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 10* (1) The Complaint and Order Suspending Tariff Revisions in Docket TG-090899, entered on August 13, 2009, is dismissed.
- 11* (2) The tariff revisions Mason County Garbage Co., Inc., filed in this docket on June 12, 2009, and the substitute pages filed on July 23, 2009, shall become effective on February 26, 2010, on a permanent basis.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective February 25, 2010.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner