

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

|                                     |   |                     |
|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| In the Matter of the Petition of    | ) | DOCKET TG-111290    |
|                                     | ) |                     |
| WASTE MANAGEMENT OF                 | ) | ORDER 01            |
| WASHINGTON, INC., DBA WASTE         | ) |                     |
| MANAGEMENT - SPOKANE,               | ) |                     |
| G-237,                              | ) |                     |
|                                     | ) |                     |
| Petitioner,                         | ) |                     |
|                                     | ) |                     |
|                                     | ) |                     |
|                                     | ) |                     |
| For An Order Granting An Exemption  | ) | ORDER GRANTING AN   |
| Of Filing Requirements Specified In | ) | EXEMPTION TO FILING |
| Order Authorizing Deferred          | ) | REQUIREMENTS FOR    |
| Accounting                          | ) | DEFERRED ACCOUNTING |
| .....                               | ) |                     |

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On July 18, 2011, Waste Management of Washington, Inc., dba Waste Management – Spokane (Waste Management or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revised Page Nos. 2, 21, and 25 to its current Tariff No. 16. The stated effective date is August 1, 2011.
- 2     The filing proposes to increase the commodity credits that Waste Management pays to residential single family and multi-family customers for the value of the recyclable materials that the Company collects as part of its residential curbside and multi-family recycling services. The proposed monthly credit for residential single family recycling customers increases from \$0.24 to \$0.73. Multi-family recycling monthly credits also increase from \$0.13 per yard to \$0.21 per yard.
- 3     In TG-090923, Order 01 (Order 01), the Commission issued an order authorizing the Company to use a deferred accounting treatment mechanism to adjust the amount paid to customers for the sale of recycled commodities. Waste Management has filed annual commodity adjustments since then using the deferred accounting mechanism approved in Order 01. The commodity adjustment has two components: a true-up component that, for the previous twelve-month test period, compares the estimated commodity value to actual commodity value, and an estimate of the revenue (cost) of the next twelve months using the average twelve-month test period revenue (cost).

4 In Order 01, the Commission specified in ordering paragraph two, that the Company;  
“shall make its next commodity adjustment effective August 1, 2010, and each August 1  
thereafter, and shall make all future commodity adjustment filings forty-five days prior to  
the proposed effective date.” The Company filed 13 days prior to the effective date of  
the proposed tariff revisions.

5 Staff recommends that the Commission grant the Company’s request to file the  
recyclable commodity revenue adjustment in less than 45 days and condition its approval  
on Waste Management making its next commodity adjustment effective August 1, 2012,  
and each August 1 thereafter, and that the Company make all future commodity  
adjustment filings forty-five days prior to the proposed effective date to give Staff  
sufficient time to review the filing.

#### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (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.*
- 7 (2) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on  
July 28, 2011.
- 8 (3) Waste Management is engaged in the business of providing solid waste services  
within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to  
Commission jurisdiction.
- 9 (4) After reviewing Waste Management’s request to allow the proposed commodity  
credits filed on July 18, 2011, to become effective August 1, 2011, and giving due  
consideration, the Commission finds that Waste Management’s request is  
reasonable and should be granted.

**ORDER**

**THE COMMISSION ORDERS:**

- 10 (1) The proposed tariff revisions Waste Management of Washington, Inc., dba Waste Management – Spokane filed on July 18, 2011, will be effective on August 1, 2011.
- 11 (2) Waste Management of Washington, Inc., dba Waste Management – Spokane shall make its next commodity adjustment effective August 1, 2012, and each August 1 thereafter, and shall make all future commodity adjustment filings forty-five days prior to the proposed effective date.
- 12 (3) The Commission delegates to the Executive Secretary the authority to approve by letter all compliance filings required in this Order.
- 13 (4) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Waste Management of Washington, Inc., dba Waste Management – Spokane to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

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

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective July 28, 2011.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner