

Service Date: June 14, 2018



STATE OF WASHINGTON

UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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(360) 664-1160 • TTY (360) 586-8203

June 14, 2018

Meg Morehead
King County Solid Waste Division, DNRP
King Street Center
201 S. Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

RE: Revised King County Draft Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Cost Assessment Questionnaire, TG-180451

Dear Ms. Morehead:

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) has completed its review of the revised cost assessment questionnaire for the draft of the King County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (Plan), submitted May 18, 2018. Staff reviewed this plan and the prior cost assessment questionnaire under the previous Docket, TG-180044. The cost assessment questionnaire portion was updated at the request of Department of Ecology due to the fact that the plan period began in 2017, which was one full year out of date when filed with the Commission.

There was a relatively large change to the overall recycling rate in this revised cost assessment. From 2017 to 2018, the recycling rate dropped 5.4 percent, to an overall recycling rate of 52 percent. This is due to a 14 percent increase in garbage tonnage disposed, and an 8 percent reduction in recycling tons processed. The County proposes two tip fee increases at all King County transfer stations during the 2018 – 2023 Plan period. These tip fee increases are expected to occur in 2020 and 2023. As a result, there will be a rate impact to ratepayers served by regulated solid waste collection companies in King County in years 2020 and 2023. This is illustrated in the table shown on the following page.

	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>Total</i>
All King County Transfer Stations – Projected Disposal Fees							
Per Ton Disposal Cost	\$134.59	\$134.59	\$140.82	\$140.82	\$140.82	\$154.16	
Per Ton Increase	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6.23	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13.34	\$19.57
Projected Rate Increases							
<i>Residential</i>							
Monthly rate increase for one 32-gallon can per week service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.98	\$1.44
<i>Commercial</i>							
Monthly rate increase for one-yard per pick up service	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5.06	\$7.42

Staff has no further comment on the cost assessment questionnaire. Please direct questions or comments to Greg Hammond at (360) 664-1278 or by email at greg.hammond@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark L. Johnson
 Executive Director and Secretary

cc: Vicki Colgan, Department of Ecology, Regional Planner