

June 24, 2010

Randy Casteel
Public Works Director
Kitsap County
614 Division Street
Port Orchard, WA 98366-4699

RE: Comments on the Preliminary Draft of Kitsap County's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan, TG-100832.

Dear Mr. Casteel:

The Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission/UTC) has completed its review of the preliminary draft of the Kitsap County Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan Update (Plan). In accordance with RCW 70.95.096, commission staff analyzed the Plan to determine the probable effect, if any, of the Plan's recommendations on the rates charged by solid waste companies.

The analysis of the Cost Assessment shows a financial impact to ratepayers served by regulated solid waste collection companies in Kitsap County. The Plan calls for tip fee increases. An average residential customer's (one-can, weekly service) bill would increase approximately \$0.15 per month in 2011, \$0.16 per month increase in 2012 and \$0.16 per month increase in 2013. An average commercial customer's (one yard, weekly service) bill would increase approximately \$0.75 per month in 2011, \$0.78 per month in 2012 and \$0.81 per month in 2012.

Please see the attachment for staff's comments. Please direct questions or comments to Christian Ward, Regulatory Analyst, at (360) 664-1349 or by email at cward@utc.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

David W. Danner
Executive Director and Secretary

Attachment

cc: Taisa Welhasch, Department of Ecology, Regional Solid Waste Planner

ATTACHMENT
Commission staff's comments on Kitsap County's draft comprehensive solid waste management plan

Specific comments:

1. Section 3.2.10 – The Plan refers to haulers as “*franchise haulers*.” The commission issues Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity to regulated solid waste collection companies. The word “*franchise*” has a different meaning within the regulatory environment and can cause confusion when it is used to refer to a solid waste collection company regulated by the commission.

In the context of solid waste regulation in the State, the term “*franchise*” refers to municipal contracts for solid waste collection service within its jurisdiction which are exempt from commission regulation (see RCW 81.77.020), or when a city’s authority for large trucks to drive on the roads. We suggest changing all references to solid waste collection companies regulated by the UTC from “*franchise*” to “*certificate*” or “*certificated*”.

2. Section 5.2.3, Collection, paragraph C&D debris – Staff recommends that you add the following language “A hauler that collects commercial recycling for recycling purposes must first obtain a common carrier permit (RCW 81.80) from the WUTC and register as a transporter of recycling material with the Department of Ecology. A hauler of “commercial recycling” collected and transported to a disposal facility requires a certificate of public convenience and necessity (RCW 81.77.)”
3. Section 7.2.1, Residential Curbside Collection, page 7.1 – Please note the residential and commercial collection of garbage, residential recyclables, and yard and food debris, is regulated under RCW 81.77 and WAC 480.70.