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El Dorado supervisors declare intent to end trash collection fuel surcharge

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The El Dorado Board of Supervisors unanimously declared the intent Tuesday to do away with the fuel surcharge El Dorado Disposal has passed along to customers since 2006.

The controversial fuel surcharge isn't needed because any fluctuations in diesel prices are adequately reflected in annual garbage collection rate adjustments, county officials say.

El Dorado Disposal, which was purchased by Waste Connections Inc. in 2006, provides garbage collection and recycling services for much of the county's western slope. The company proposed reducing the surcharge from 3.75 percent to 2.97 percent for the coming fiscal year. But Sue Farris, district manager, said fuel remains the third largest cost, after disposal and labor costs, and is 45 percent higher than it was when the current contract was written in 2003 .

The company also seeks a 3.4 percent rate increase to reflect increases in the consumer price index.

– Cathy Locke

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