# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

KENNETH L. BINKLEY,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,

Respondent.

NO. UE-091531

# PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT

Puget Sound Energy, Inc. ("PSE" or "the Company") answers the letter Complaint of Kenneth L. Binkley ("Binkley") received by the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (the "Commission") on September 14, 2009, as follows, in paragraphs numbered one through ten, corresponding to the paragraphs in Binkley's letter complaint.

# ANSWER

1. In response to the first sentence of paragraph one, PSE admits the allegation on information and belief. PSE further admits that Salmon Shores RV Park ("Salmon Shores") is a customer under Tariff Schedules 7, 24 and 25 and provides Binkley electricity. The third and final sentence states a legal assertion and conclusion for which an answer is

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PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT - 1 inappropriate and is therefore denied. PSE denies the remaining allegations contained in paragraph one.

### ANSWER TO "BACKGROUND"

2. Answering paragraph two, PSE is without information or knowledge to respond to the first two sentences, and therefore denies same. PSE admits the third and fourth sentences. In answering the remaining sentences, PSE admits that Mr. Cupp contacted PSE and that PSE wrote to Salmon Shores informing it that PSE's tariff does not authorize the reselling of electricity and that the Salmon Shores could not charge its tenants more per kWh than PSE charged Salmon Shores, but that if Salmon Shores wanted to use a flat rate charge, it would not violate the tariff so long as the charge was not associated with the kWh charge. PSE is without knowledge or information as to the seventh and final sentence of paragraph 2 and therefore denies the same. PSE denies the remaining allegations contained in paragraph two.

3. Answering paragraph three, PSE admits that Binkley filed a complaint with the Attorney's General Office ("AGO"). PSE admits the second sentence upon information and belief. PSE admits the allegations contained in the third and final sentence.

### ANSWER TO "ELECTRICITY ACCESS CHARGE"

4. Answering paragraph four, PSE admits that Salmon Shores began charging an Electricity Access Charge to its tenants in the last year and that Binkley contacted the AGO with complaints in this regard. PSE is without knowledge or information as to the last two sentences of paragraph four and therefore denies same.

5. Answering the fifth paragraph, PSE alleges that Binkley's invoices for electricity are in writing and speak for themselves. PSE denies the remaining allegations contained in paragraph five.

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PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT - 2

6. PSE is without knowledge or information to answer the sixth paragraph, and therefore denies same.

7. Answering the seventh paragraph, PSE alleges that Binkley's invoices for electricity and Attachment 8 to the letter complaint are in writing and speak for themselves. PSE denies the remaining allegations contained in paragraph seven.

Answering the eighth paragraph, PSE alleges that Binkley's invoices for 8. electricity and Attachment 9 to the letter complaint are in writing and speak for themselves. PSE denies the remaining allegations contained in paragraph eight.

9. Answering the ninth paragraph, PSE alleges that Binkley's invoices for electricity and Attachment 10 to the letter complaint are in writing and speak for themselves. PSE denies the remaining allegations contained in paragraph nine.

### **ANSWER TO "CONCLUSION"**

10. The allegations in paragraph ten are legal assertions and conclusions for which an answer is inappropriate and is therefore denied.

### **PSE'S AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

PSE asserts the following defenses:

1. Complainant has failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

2. Complainant has failed to mitigate its damages, if any.

# **PSE'S PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

Wherefore, PSE prays for the following relief:

Α. That the Complaint be dismissed with prejudice;

B. For such other relief as the Commission deems just and appropriate.

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# PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT - 3

DATED:	October	19	, 2009.

### PERKINS COIE LLP

By

Sheree Strom Carson Gina S. Warren Attorneys for Puget Sound Energy, Inc.

> PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT - 4

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## STATE OF WASHINGTON ) ) ss. COUNTY OF KING )

LYNN F. LOGEN, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is the Tariff Consultant for Puget Sound Energy, Inc.; that he has read the foregoing Answer to Complaint and knows the contents thereof; that the facts set forth therein are true of his own knowledge, except as to matters which are therein stated on information or belief, and as to those matters, he believes them to be true.

Lynn F. Logen

SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me this <u>16</u> day of October, 2009, by LYNN

F. LOGEN.

DENISE K. SCHROEDER NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF WASHINGTON COMMISSION EXPIRES AUGUST 1, 2013

Print Name: Denise K SCHROEDER Notary Public in and for the State of Washington, residing at SNOQUALMIE WA My commission expires: 8 - 1 - 2013

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PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT - 5

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DENISE K. SCHAGEDER NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF WASHINGTON COMMISSION EXPIRES AUGUST 1, 2013

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1 2 3	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE			
4	I hereby certify that I have this day served the foregoing document upon all parties of			
5	record in this proceeding, by mailing with postage prepaid to:			
7 8 9 10 11 12	Kenneth Lee Binkley P.O. Box 2213 Olympia, Washington 98507-2213			
13 14 15	Dated at <u>Bellexue</u> , Washington, this <u>1976</u> day of October, 2009.			
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