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

In the Matter of

PUGET SOUND ENERGY

Gas Climate Commitment Act Tariff WN U-2 Revision.

DOCKET UG-230470

JOINT PETITION TO COMPEL COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER 01 AND HEAR THE PETITION AT THE AUGUST 29, 2024 OPEN MEETING

## DECLARATION OF SHAYLEE STOKES IN SUPPORT OF JOINT PETITION TO

## COMPEL COMPLIANCE WITH ORDER 01 AND HEAR THE PETITION AT THE

## AUGUST 29, 2024 OPEN MEETING

August 20, 2024

- 1 I, Shalyee Stoke, declare and state as follows:
- I am over 18 years of age, and I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this Declaration. I am the Director of The Energy Project, a project of Washington State Community Action Partnership, whose goal is to encourage energy efficiency and bill assistance services for low-income households.
- On July 9, 2024 Puget Sound Energy (PSE) held a meeting with its Low-Income Advisory Committee (LIAC). Topics of discussion at the meeting included the disenrollment of lowincome customers from receiving bill assistance under the Bill Discount Rate program (BDR) and the Climate Commitment Act. PSE informed the LIAC it intended to disenroll approximately 50,000 customers from both the BDR and CCA credit programs at some point in August 2024.
- 4 The LIAC has never approved of PSE's planned disenrollment of these approximately 50,000 customers.
- 5 On July 31, 2024, Commission Staff e-mailed PSE on behalf of itself, TEP, and the Northwest Energy Coalition (NWEC), requesting PSE perform additional outreach to the approximately 50,000 low-income customers it intended to disenroll and explaining that disenrollment of these customers would not be compliant with Order 01, RCW 70A.65.130, or the Company's CCA requirements. Commission staff requested a response from PSE by August 7, 2024.
- On August 19, 2024, PSE responded by sending a letter from its Counsel declining to take the action requested by Commission staff and TEP. Prior to sending this letter, PSE did not communicate to me or the LIAC what its outreach to these customers comprised, or on what date it planned to disenroll these customers. The letter states that PSE conducted two rounds of outreach to these customers via email and postal service mail. The letter does not describe how

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PSE selected which customers received postal service mail, and which received e-mail, but shows that most customers only received e-mails.

7 Based on the data available to TEP, removing over 50,000 customers from the BDR and CCA low-income credit would result in PSE having the lowest percentage of estimated low-income customers enrolled in energy assistance programs among investor-owned natural gas utilities in Washington state.

I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 20th day of August, 2024.

By: /s/ Shaylee N. Stokes

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