

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

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| WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND |) | |
| TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, |) | |
| |) | DOCKET TO-010792 |
| Complainant, |) | |
| |) | COMPLAINT AND ORDER |
| v. |) | SUSPENDING TARIFF |
| |) | REVISIONS AND |
| OLYMPIC PIPE LINE COMPANY, INC. |) | INSTITUTING |
| |) | INVESTIGATION |
| Respondent. |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | |

BACKGROUND

- 1 On May 31, 2001, Olympic Pipe Line Company (Olympic) filed with the Commission a new Tariff WN No. 22, canceling and replacing WN No. 21. The stated effective date is July 1, 2001. The new tariff increases all transportation rates and charges by 76 percent.

- 2 The filing would increase charges and rates for service provided by Olympic. Because those increases might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and Olympic has not demonstrated that the increases would result in rates that are fair, just, and reasonable, the Commission suspends the tariff filing and will hold public hearings if necessary to determine whether the proposed increases are just and reasonable.

FINDINGS

- 3 Olympic is a pipeline company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.

- 4 The tariff revisions filed by Olympic on May 31, 2001, would increase charges and rates for service provided by Olympic, and might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public.

- 5 This proceeding is of a precedential nature as described in WAC 480-09-480(2)(b).

- 6 As required by RCW 81.04.130, Olympic bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed tariffs are just and reasonable. The ultimate issues involved include whether the proposed tariff revisions are just, fair, reasonable, and sufficient and in

the public interest, as well as whether existing rates are just, fair, reasonable, and sufficient and in the public interest. These issues includes consideration of alternative rate designs and rate structures.

- 7 In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in RCW 81.20.020, the Commission must investigate Olympic's books, accounts, practices and activities; make a valuation or appraisal of Olympic's property; and investigate and appraise various phases of Olympic's operations. Olympic may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are consistent with 81.20 RCW.

O R D E R

- 8 THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 9 The operation of the tariff revisions filed by Olympic on May 31, 2001, are suspended.

- 10 The Commission shall convene a prehearing conference in this matter pursuant to a notice of hearing to be issued in this matter. Olympic must file its direct testimony, exhibits, and supporting workpapers on or before the date specified in such notice of hearing.

- 11 Olympic must not change or alter the tariff revisions filed in this docket during the period of suspension without prior written authorization of the Commission.

- 12 The Commission will institute an investigation of Olympic's books, accounts, practices, activities, operations, and a valuation or appraisal of Olympic's property as described above.

- 13 Olympic shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment may be in accordance with the provisions of chapter 81.20 RCW.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 27th day of June, 2001.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner