# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET UE-120807
TRANSPORTATION	)	
COMMISSION,	)	ORDER 01
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
PUGET SOUND ENERGY,	)	
	)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
Respondent.	)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS
	)	

## **BACKGROUND**

- On June 1, 2012, Puget Sound Energy, (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-60, designated as Fifteenth Revision of Sheet No. 83 and Twenty-First Revision of Sheet No. 120. The stated effective date is July 1, 2012. The purpose of this filing is to cease all conservation programs in the Jefferson County portion of PSE's electric service territory, and to cease charging PSE's Jefferson County customers the charges under Schedule 120 Electricity Conservation Rider.
- In this filing, PSE would decrease charges and rates for conservation service to zero for Jefferson County electric customers. Because the cessation of conservation programs might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and PSE has not demonstrated that the decreases would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient, the Commission suspends the tariff filing and will hold public hearings, if necessary, to determine whether the proposed decreases are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.

# FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including electric companies.

RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.28.

- 4 (2) PSE is an electric company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 5 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on June 28, 2012.
- 6 (4) The tariff revisions PSE filed on June 1, 2012, would decrease charges and rates for service provided by PSE, and might injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 7 (5) PSE has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
- In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in RCW 80.04.130, the Commission believes it is necessary to investigate PSE's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of PSE's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of PSE's operations.
- 9 (7) As required by RCW 80.04.130 (4), PSE bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
- 10 (8) PSE may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation, consistent with RCW 80.20.

#### ORDER

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) The tariff revisions Puget Sound Energy filed on June 1, 2012, are suspended.
- 12 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 13 (3) Puget Sound Energy must not change or alter the tariffs filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.

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14 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Puget Sound Energy's books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations as described above.

15 (5) Puget Sound Energy shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation, consistent with RCW 80.20.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective June 28, 2012.

## WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner