BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET UG-131256
)	
PUGET SOUND ENERGY,)	ORDER 01
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
For Less Than Statutory Notice in)	STATUTORY NOTICE; ALLOWING
Connection with Tariff Revisions)	TARIFF REVISIONS
)	

BACKGROUND

- On July 2, 2013, Puget Sound Energy, (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a revision to its currently effective Tariff WN U-2, designated as 1st Revision of Sheet 1141-A, Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued). The purpose of the filing is to correct the tariff sheet for a schedule number that was inadvertently left off the original sheet.
- RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121 require thirty days' notice to customers prior to the effective date of the tariff. The tariff sheet bears an effective date of August 2, 2013. This date recognizes the required 30-day statutory notice. The Company requests, however, less than statutory notice as permitted by WAC 480-80-122, and that the revision becomes effective July 12, 2013. PSE requests less than statutory notice because the customer on the omitted tariff should receive the same rate reduction as other customers. Only one customer is affected.
- WAC 480-90-194 requires notice to customers or publication of the increase sought in this filing. Granting PSE's less than statutory notice request also requires an exemption from WAC 480-90-194. For the same reason(s) PSE identified for seeking less than statutory notice, the Company seeks an exemption from the notice requirements. By granting this tariff revision on July 12, 2013, the only customer on this schedule will receive the rate reduction in the regularly scheduled bill and so be notified directly. Therefore, no further notice by PSE is necessary.
- The affected rate schedule is Schedule 53, Propane Service. Schedule 53 rates are identical to Schedule 23. On the Original Sheet for the expedited rate filing adjustment, Schedule 1141, the line reading "Schedule 23" should have read "Schedules 23 & 53." This housekeeping tariff filing is to correct that omission.

Since the proposed tariff revision appears to be fair, just, reasonable and sufficient, and less than statutory notice is consistent with the public interest, it is appropriate that the Commission grant PSE's request with an effective date of July 12, 2013.

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 the rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including gas companies. RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.28.
- 7 (2) PSE is a gas company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- PSE is subject to RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121, which require gas companies to file changes in any rate or charges with thirty days' notice. For good cause shown, however, the Commission may allow changes without requiring thirty days' notice by order specifying the changes to be made and the time when it shall take effect. RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-122.
- 9 (4) Staff has reviewed PSE's request in Docket UG-131256 and recommends the Commission grant the Company's request for less than statutory notice. Staff further recommends the Commission grant an exemption from WAC 480-90-194 and require the Company to notify the customer by direct contact.
- This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on July 11, 2013.
- After reviewing PSE's proposed tariff revision filed on July 2, 2013 and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revision should become effective July 12, 2013.
- 12 (7) The Commission also finds PSE should be granted an exemption from the customer notice requirements in WAC 480-90-194.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 (1) Puget Sound Energy's request for less than statutory notice is granted.
- 14 (2) After the effective date of this Order, Puget Sound Energy is granted an exemption from WAC 480-90-194, which requires a 30-day notice to customers of proposed changes to increase charges or restrict access in service. Puget Sound Energy must provide notice to customers by direct contact.
- The tariff revisions Puget Sound Energy filed on July 2, 2013, will be effective on July 12, 2013.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective July 11, 2013.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Acting Executive Director and Secretary