# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of	)	DOCKET UE-152034
	)	
PUGET SOUND ENERGY,	)	ORDER 01
	)	
Petitioner,	)	ORDER GRANTING
	)	EXEMPTION FROM RULE AND
Seeking Approval of Tariff Revisions	)	ALLOWING REVISED RATES TO
to Schedule 95A and Requesting	)	BECOME EFFECTIVE
Exemption from the Provisions of	)	JANUARY 1, 2016
WAC 480-100-198 Relating to Notice	)	
Verification and Assistance.	)	
	)	

### **BACKGROUND**

- On October 26, 2015, Puget Sound Energy (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a tariff filing to reflect an annual true-up of rates included in Schedule 95A Federal Incentive Tracker (Tracker). Further, PSE requested an exemption from WAC 480-100-198.
- WAC 480-100-198 states that within 10 days of making a filing that requires a customer notice under WAC 480-100-194, electric companies must file a statement with the Commission's records center showing that such notice has been posted, published, and/or mailed.
- PSE's filing reflects an increased amount of credit which results in a net decrease in electric bills for customers. However, due to load forecast and rate spread, a few customers will see an increase. Therefore, PSE is required to provide notice to customers in accordance with WAC 480-100-194(2) at least thirty days prior to the stated January 1, 2016 effective date. PSE provided notice to its customers on December 1, 2015. However, providing the notice on December 1, 2015, does not allow PSE to provide the Commission a copy of the notice within 10 days of making the filing as provided in WAC 480-100-198. For that reason, PSE requested that it be granted a waiver of WAC 480-100-198 and be allowed to comply with WAC 480-100-198 within 10 days of December 1, 2015.

- 4 Commission Staff reviewed the request and recommended granting PSE's request for exemption for the present filing.
- PSE also requested revisions to Schedule 95A to reflect a total credit from the Federal Treasury Grant of \$57,305,024 to be passed back to eligible customers over the twelve months beginning January 1, 2016. Of the total credit, \$39,597,741 represents the pass through of grant amortization, \$17,707,283 represents the interest, and \$3,721,557 is related to the true-up for 2015. This filing represents an overall average rate decrease of 0.18 percent. PSE had 1,104,849 electric customers as of September 30, 2015. This filing affects all but 16 of PSE's electric customers.
- 6 Commission Staff has reviewed the requested tariff revisions and finds them to be fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient. Staff recommends the Commission issue an order allowing the tariff filing in this docket to become effective January 1, 2016.

### 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, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including electric companies. RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.28, RCW 80.08 and RCW 80.12.
- 8 (2) PSE is engaged in the business of providing electric services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the provisions of RCW 80.28.
- 9 (3) PSE is subject to the provisions of WAC 480-100-194, requiring electric companies within 10 days of making a filing that requires customer notice under WAC 480-100-194 to file a statement with the Commission's records center showing that such notice has been posted, published, and/or mailed.
- WAC 480-100-008 provides that the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in WAC 480-100, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes.
- 11 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on December 30, 2015.

- 12 (6) The tariff revision presently under consideration is fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- After reviewing the tariff revision filed in Docket UE-152034 by PSE and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public interest to allow the revised rates and tariff revision filed on October 26, 2015, to become effective on January 1, 2016.
- After review of the petition filed in Docket UE-152034 by PSE on October 26, 2015, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the exemption is reasonable and should be granted for this docket only.

### ORDER

## THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 15 (1) Puget Sound Energy is granted an exemption from WAC 480-100-198, Notice Verification and Assistance for Docket UE-152034.
- 16 (2) The tariff revision Puget Sound Energy filed in this docket on October 26, 2015, shall become effective on January 1, 2016.
- 17 (3) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Puget Sound Energy to effectuate the provisions of this Order.
- 18 (4) 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 December 30, 2015.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION