

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

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET UG-090706
)	
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

- 1 On May 8, 2009, 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 Natural Gas Supplemental Schedule No. 106, Deferred Account Adjustment. On May 20, 2009, the Company filed a substitute tariff page. The purpose of this substitute filing is to implement a twelve-month reduction in rates through Schedule 106 to reduce the balance that has accumulated due to prior over recoveries of revenue to cover purchased gas expenses.
- 2 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 June 8, 2009. 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 June 1, 2009. Due to the balance that has accumulated PSE has chosen to implement a rate reduction immediately rather than wait until the PGA filing in October 2009. The Company requests less than statutory notice in order to allow the Company to adjust rates and pass this credit to customers in a timely manner.
- 3 The Company requests a rate reduction in response to excess supply, a weak economy and a sharp decline in wholesale natural gas prices.
- 4 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 June 1, 2009.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) 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.*
- 6 (2) PSE is a gas company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 7 (3) 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.*
- 8 (4) Staff has reviewed PSE's request in Docket UG-090706 and recommends the Commission grant the Company's request for less than statutory notice.
- 9 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 28, 2009.
- 10 (6) After reviewing PSE's proposed tariff revision filed on May 8, 2009, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revision should become effective June 1, 2009.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) Puget Sound Energy's request for less than statutory notice is granted.
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- 12 (2) The tariff revisions Puget Sound Energy filed on May 8, 2009 will be effective on June 1, 2009.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective May 28, 2009.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner