



Puget Sound Energy  
P.O. Box 97034  
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PSE.com

January 28, 2022

Ms. Amanda Maxwell  
Executive Director and Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
621 Woodland Square Loop SE  
Lacey, Washington 98503

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State Of WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

**Re: Quarterly COVID-19 Deferral Reporting  
Dockets UE-200780 and UG-200781**

Dear Ms. Maxwell,

On September 3, 2020, Puget Sound Energy (“PSE”) filed a Petition for an Order Approving Deferral of Costs Associated with the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency which was subsequently approved under Dockets UE-200780 and UG-200781. As required in Docket U-200281, PSE is submitting its quarterly report that itemizes the costs approved for deferral.

As of December 31, 2021, and prior quarterly periods beginning as of December 31, 2020, the Company has identified and/or deferred the below costs and benefits associated with the COVID-19 pandemic which were calculated as outlined in Order 01 of Dockets UE-200780 and UG-20078.

Electric Categories	Q4 2020*	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Combined Total
Direct Costs	257,591	106,976	116,135	28,212	33,771	542,685
Direct Savings	(552,968)	(12,154)	(276,622)	(445,734)	(116,491)	(1,403,969)
Bad Debt Expense Accrued Above Baseline	-	1,694,529	2,349,857	2,956,913	(4,687,180)	2,314,119
Foregone Late Payment Fees	838,744	540,490	536,073	538,797	538,212	2,992,317
Foregone Disconnection Fees	(77,912)	52,490	68,747	23,537	(8,672)	58,191
COVID-19 Bill Assistance Program	-	-	8,626,022	5,199,522	7,928,187	21,753,731
<b>Totals</b>	<b>465,455</b>	<b>2,382,331</b>	<b>11,420,212</b>	<b>8,301,247</b>	<b>3,687,828</b>	<b>26,257,074</b>

Gas Categories	Q4 2020*	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Combined Total
Direct Costs	127,336	52,599	57,568	12,891	15,013	265,407
Direct Savings	(277,811)	(4,294)	(139,325)	(225,591)	(57,153)	(704,174)
Bad Debt Expense Accrued Above Baseline	-	655,380	469,481	337,614	(927,934)	534,542
Foregone Late Payment Fees	332,597	211,814	211,775	211,853	213,593	1,181,632
Foregone Disconnection Fees	10,002	9,106	10,264	11,180	10,530	51,081
COVID-19 Bill Assistance Program	-	-	1,912,594	863,863	(2,776,457)	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>192,124</b>	<b>924,606</b>	<b>2,522,357</b>	<b>1,211,810</b>	<b>(3,522,409)</b>	<b>1,328,488</b>

On November 12, 2021, as part of UE-210792 and UG-210793 the Commission approved PSE’s revision to electric and gas Schedule 129, Low Income Program, to implement a supplemental

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Crisis Affected Customer Assistance Program (“CACAP”) to assist low-income customers with arrearages. The supplemental CACAP program is mainly funded through unspent prior year electric and gas Home Energy Lifeline Program (“HELP”) funds, but a portion of the electric funds will also come from the COVID bill assistance program approved in UE-200780 and reported above. This filing also allowed Gas COVID bill assistance disbursements amounts that were previously reported above to be recovered through unspent gas HELP funds. Accordingly, PSE has reduced the gas COVID bill assistance amounts reported above to \$0 as of December 31, 2021. Conversely, electric COVID bill assistance has increased by \$7.9 million during Q4 2021, of which approximately \$6.8 million relates to disbursements through the supplemental CACAP program.

As part of the supplemental CACAP program PSE was allowed to automatically distribute funds to customers who met the program requirements which significantly decreased PSE’s aged outstanding customer accounts receivable balance. This led to a large decrease in PSE’s bad debt expense which decreased PSE’s bad debt expense deferral by \$4.7 million and \$0.9 million for electric and gas, respectively.

Please contact me at (425) 457-5854 should you have any questions.

Regards,

*/s/ Stacy Smith*

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cc: Jason Ball Assistant Director, Energy