



**STATE OF WASHINGTON**  
**UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**  
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March 29, 2017

**NOTICE SUSPENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

**AND**

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON SETTLEMENT PROPOSAL**  
**(Set for Monday, May 15, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.)**

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Puget Sound Energy*,  
Docket PG-160924

TO ALL PARTIES:

On March 9, 2016, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) initiated a complaint against Puget Sound Energy (PSE) as a result of Commission regulatory staff's (Staff) investigation into a natural gas explosion that occurred in the vicinity of 8411 Greenwood Ave. N, Seattle, Washington. On November 2, 2016, the Commission entered a Prehearing Conference Order establishing a procedural schedule. The procedural schedule was modified by notice dated January 17, 2017. The revised procedural schedule included, among other things, an evidentiary hearing on July 6 and 7, 2017.

On March 28, 2017, Commission Staff and PSE filed with the Commission a multi-party Settlement Agreement (Settlement) and supporting Narrative.<sup>1</sup> The Settlement purports to resolve all of the contested issues in the proceeding. Among other things, the Settlement provides for the Commission to impose a \$2.75 million penalty against PSE, \$1.5 million of which would be due within 10 days after the Commission approves the Settlement and the remaining \$1.25 million would be suspended pending PSE's compliance with conditions contained in the Settlement.

The Commission finds good cause to suspend the existing procedural schedule to enable the Commission to consider the Settlement. By this Notice, the Commission establishes the deadline

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<sup>1</sup> These parties represent that the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington Attorney General's Office, the only other party in this proceeding, has not taken a position on the Settlement.

by which parties must submit prefiled testimony and exhibits in support of, or opposition to, the Settlement and sets a date for the settlement hearing.

**THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE** That the procedural schedule in Docket PG-160924 is suspended.

**THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE** That prefiled testimony and exhibits in support of, or opposition to, the Settlement Agreement must be submitted to the Commission for filing by **5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2017**. The Commission will conduct a hearing on the Settlement Agreement on **Monday, May 15, 2017, at 9:30 a.m.**, in Room 206, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.

GREGORY J. KOPTA  
Administrative Law Judge