

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of

PUGET SOUND ENERGY

Petitioner,

Seeking Exemption from WAC 480-100-194(4)(d) and WAC 480-90-194(4)(d) relating to the publication of proposed tariff changes to increase charges.

DOCKETS UE-230114 and UG-230115

ORDER 01

GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM
RULE

BACKGROUND

- 1 On February 21, 2023, Puget Sound Energy (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) petitions (Petitions) requesting an exemption from WAC 480-90-194(4)(d) and WAC 480-100-194(4)(d).
- 2 WAC 480-90-194(4)(d) and WAC 480-100-194(4)(d) require the publication of proposed tariff changes to include a comparison of current and proposed rates.
- 3 PSE stated that the effective tax rates for 81 out of the 82 cities in Schedule 81 are subject to change in this filing, and the presentation of such a large amount of data may create confusion for customers. To provide the target information for the customers in each of the 81 cities, in conjunction with the newspaper notices, PSE has setup a website where customers can look up the specific change associated with their city at <https://www.pse.com/pages/rates/news-and-filings>.
- 4 Commission Staff reviewed the request and recommended granting PSE's request for exemption.

DISCUSSION

- 5 We grant PSE's request for an exemption from WAC 480-90-194(4)(d) and WAC 480-100-194(d). We agree with Staff that PSE's request is reasonable and that the presentation of a comparison of current and proposed rates by service for 81 cities in newspaper notices might create confusion for customers. Accordingly, we find that

granting the Company's request for an exemption is in the public interest and consistent with both the purposes underlying the rule and applicable statutes.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including electric companies.
- 7 (2) PSE is engaged in the business of providing electric and gas services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 8 (3) PSE is subject to from WAC 480-90-194(4)(d) and WAC 480-100-194(d), which require the publication of proposed tariff changes to include a comparison of current and proposed rates.
- 9 (4) Under WAC 480-90-008 and WAC 480-100-008, the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in WAC 480-90 and WAC 480-100, respectively, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes. See also WAC 480-07-110.
- 10 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 23, 2023.
- 11 (6) After review of the Petitions filed in Dockets UE-230114 and UG-230115 by PSE on February 21, 2023, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the exemption is in the public interest and is consistent with the purposes underlying the regulation and applicable statutes and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) After the effective date of this Order, Puget Sound Energy is granted an exemption WAC 480-90-194(4)(d) and WAC 480-100-194(d), which requires the

publication of proposed tariff changes to include a comparison of current and proposed rates.

- 13 (2) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Puget Sound Energy to effectuate the provisions of this Order.

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

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective March 23, 2023.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

AMANDA MAXWELL
Executive Director and Secretary