

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Docket No. PG-160924
Puget Sound Energy
Greenwood Complaint**

PUBLIC COUNSEL DATA REQUEST NO. 007

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Provide a narrative explanation regarding why Puget Sound Energy deactivated the natural gas line serving the 8400 block of Greenwood Avenue North in Seattle, Washington approximately six hours after the explosion occurred on March 9, 2016. Include in your narrative a chronological listing of events from the point at which PSE was notified of the explosion to the point when the natural gas was deactivated. Include also the names of PSE employees, agents, or contractors involved.

Response:

Please see Puget Sound Energy's ("PSE") response to WUTC Staff Informal Data Request No. 015 for a description of actions taken to stop the flow of gas to the incident site. See also PSE's response to WUTC Staff Informal Data Request No. 001 for the timing of PSE's emergency response actions and personnel involved.

First Supplemental Response:

Puget Sound Energy ("PSE") objects to Public Counsel Data Request No. 007 to the extent it seeks to alter or expand upon the obligations imposed by the Commission's discovery rules (WAC 480-07-400 through 480-07-425). Specifically, WAC 480-07-400(1)(c)(iii) states, "A party's written request that calls for another party to produce data in connection with an adjudicative proceeding is a 'data request.'" A request for a narrative describing factual events is not an appropriate data request. Without waiving such objection, and subject thereto, PSE responds as follows:

Upon initial arrival at approximately 2:00 AM, PSE's gas technician (Strazdins) called for additional personnel and checked in with the Seattle Fire Department incident command. After receiving a briefing and observing what appeared to be a natural gas fueled fire, PSE's gas technician proceeded to locate and close the four service line valves serving gas to the buildings involved. The valves were located on service lines originating in the alley to the west of Greenwood Ave N and were addressed as follows:

1. 213 N 85th ST
2. 219 N 85th ST
3. 8419 Greenwood Ave N
4. 8411 Greenwood Ave N

The last of these valves was closed at approximately 2:48 AM, with no discernible change in the fire.

Additional personnel began arriving on scene and a PSE incident command was established (see PSE's response to WUTC Staff Informal Data Request No. 001 for list of personnel involved). PSE developed additional strategies to stop the flow of gas to the scene.

Personnel commenced an excavation to expose the 2" PE gas main located in the alley to the west of Greenwood Ave N. The excavation was located at the alley entrance off N 84th ST. The flow of gas was stopped by "squeezing" the 2" PE gas main at 5:11 AM. There was no change observed in the fire.

PSE next identified six valves required to stop the flow of gas to the 3" STW gas main in Greenwood Ave N. The six valves are listed below in the order of operation.

1. 1st valve closed at the intersection of N 84th ST and Greenwood Ave N (132' W of Greenwood Ave N and 9' S of N 84th ST)
2. 2nd valve closed at the intersection of N 84th ST and Greenwood Ave N (39" E of Greenwood Ave N and 9' S of N 84th ST)
3. 3rd valve closed at the intersection of N 83rd ST and Greenwood Ave N (90' W of Greenwood Ave N and 9' S of N 83rd ST)
4. 4th valve closed at the intersection of N 83rd ST and Greenwood Ave N (39' W of Greenwood Ave N and 9' S of N 83rd ST)
5. 5th valve closed at the intersection of N 83rd ST and Greenwood Ave N (89' S of N 83rd ST and 12' W of Greenwood Ave N)
6. 6th valve closed at the intersection of N 85th ST and Greenwood Ave N (38' S of N 85th ST and 12' W of Greenwood Ave N)

The sixth and final valve was closed at 7:28 AM. The flames rapidly began to decrease and the fire was extinguished at 7:55 AM.

Anticipating that gas piping located in the 8400 block of Greenwood Ave N would be part of the incident investigation, PSE performed network studies to determine if this section of gas main was required to maintain adequate gas supply to the area. Due to the highly gridded nature of the neighborhood and with no customers receiving gas service from this section of main, it was decided to permanently abandon the 3" STW gas main in the 8400 block of Greenwood Ave N. The 3" STW gas main in the 8300 block of Greenwood Ave N was required to maintain gas service to customers. Gas supply was reestablished in this section of main later that evening.