

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET UE-130137
TRANSPORTATION)	
COMMISSION,)	DOCKET UG-130138
)	
Complainant,)	
)	ORDER 01
v.)	
)	
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
)	SUSPENDING TARIFF
Respondent.)	REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On February 1, 2013, Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) certain tariff revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-60, Electric Service (Docket UE-130137), and Tariff WN U-2, Natural Gas Service (Docket UG-130138), listed in the appendix attached to this order.

- 2 The purpose of this filing is to increase rates for electrical services and decrease rates for natural gas services provided to customers in the state of Washington. PSE describes the filing as an update to its electric and natural gas rates consistent with the expedited filing method proposed by the Commission’s regulatory staff in PSE's 2011-2012 general rate case, Dockets UE-111048 and UG-111049 (consolidated).¹ The proposed tariff sheets that are a part of these ERF Dockets bear a stated effective date of April 1, 2013. This matter came before the Commission at its March 14, 2013, Open Meeting.

¹ This filing does not meet the criteria defining a “general rate case” in WAC 480-07-505(1). PSE refers to the filing as an Expedited Rate Filing (ERF) and we adopt this lexicon and acronym.

3 In this filing, PSE would increase charges and rates for electric service by
approximately \$31,901,374 or 1.6 percent, and decrease charges and rates for natural
gas service by approximately \$1,240,267 or 0.1 percent. Because these changes
might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and PSE has not
demonstrated that they would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable and
sufficient, the Commission suspends the tariff filing and will hold public hearings, if
necessary, to determine whether the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable and
sufficient.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the
State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates,
regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated
interests of public service companies, including electric and natural gas
companies. [RCW 80.01.040](#), [RCW 80.04](#), [RCW 80.08](#), [RCW 80.12](#), [RCW 80.16](#)
and [RCW 80.28](#).
- 5 (2) PSE is an electric and natural gas company and a public service company
subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 6 (3) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on
March 14, 2013.
- 7 (4) The tariff revisions PSE filed on February 1, 2013, would increase charges and
rates for electric and natural gas service provided by PSE, and might
injuriously affect the rights and interest of the public.
- 8 (5) PSE has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates that
are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
- 9 (6) PSE's rates and charges for natural gas service shown on any tariffs that PSE
does not propose to revise may also be investigated to determine if they are
fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
- 10 (7) PSE's rates and charges for electric or natural gas service shown on any tariffs
that PSE does not propose to revise may also be investigated to determine if
they are fair, just reasonable and sufficient.

- 11 (8) In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in [RCW 80.04.130](#), the Commission believes it is necessary to investigate PSE's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of PSE's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of PSE's operations. The Commission finds that these dockets meet the criteria of WAC 480-07-400(2)(b)(i) and that discovery will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's discovery rules in WAC 480-07-400 – 425.
- 12 (9) As required by [RCW 80.04.130 \(4\)](#), PSE bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable and sufficient.
- 13 (10) PSE may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation, consistent with [RCW 80.20](#).

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 14 (1) The tariff revisions Puget Sound Energy, Inc., filed on February 1, 2013, in Dockets UE-130137 and UG-130138 are suspended.
- 15 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required. Such hearings may also examine the Company's rates and charges for electric or natural gas service shown on any tariffs that Puget Sound Energy, Inc. does not propose to revise.
- 16 (3) Puget Sound Energy, Inc., must not change or alter the tariffs filed in these dockets during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 17 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations as described above.
- 18 (5) Discovery will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's discovery rules in WAC 480-07-400 – 425.

- 19 (6) Puget Sound Energy, Inc., shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation, consistent with [RCW 80.20](#).

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective March 14, 2013.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Chairman

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner

JEFFREY D. GOLTZ, Commissioner

Appendix

WN U-60, Electric Service

Original	Sheet No. 141	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment
Original	Sheet No. 141-a	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-b	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-c	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-d	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-e	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-f	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-g	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-h	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-i	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-j	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-k	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 141-l	Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)

WN U-2, Natural Gas Service

Original	Sheet No. 1141	Schedule 141 - Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment
Original	Sheet No. 1141-A	Schedule 141 - Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 1141-B	Schedule 141 - Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 1141-C	Schedule 141 - Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 1141-D	Schedule 141 - Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 1141-E	Schedule 141 - Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 1141-F	Schedule 141 - Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 1141-G	Schedule 141 - Expedited Rate Filing Rate Adjustment (Continued)