



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503

P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

(360) 664-1160 • TTY 1-800-833-6384 or 711

April 11, 2025

**NOTICE REQUIRING FILING OF SETTLEMENT
DOCUMENTS OR STATUS REPORT
(By May 9, 2025)**

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Puget Sound Energy*,
Docket No. UG-240884

TO ALL PARTIES:

On November 15, 2024, Puget Sound Energy (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) proposed revisions to rates charged under its natural gas Tariff WN U-2, Schedule 111, the Greenhouse Gas Cap and Investment Adjustment, subsequently filing replacement pages on December 3, 2024. On March 5, 2025, the Commission convened a prehearing conference and adopted a procedural schedule – setting a hearing for August 8, 2025.

On April 9, 2025 – in consideration of the April 11, 2025, testimony deadline – Staff informed the presiding officer that a negotiated solution to the adjudication was likely. On April 10, 2025, Staff conveyed “that PSE, AWEC and Staff have reached a settlement in principle, and that Public Counsel’s current position is that they will neither join nor contest the settlement.”¹ Further, Staff “request[s] that the Commission suspend the current procedural schedule pursuant to WAC 480-07-740(2)(c).”

¹ WAC 480-07-740(2)(c) “Parties should inform the presiding administrative law judge as soon as they reach a settlement in principle and request that the commission suspend the procedural schedule or make other arrangements for filing and review of the parties' settlement agreement after the parties have executed it.”

Pursuant to WAC 480-07-385(b), a “party may request that the commission suspend the procedural schedule through a letter or email . . . [t]he commission will grant such a request unless it is inconsistent with the public interest or the commission’s administrative needs.” Here, there is good cause to grant the parties’ request. Settlement – even if yet unapproved – potentially avoids the administrative expense of an evidentiary hearing. This would further both the public interest as well as the Commission’s administrative needs. Built consensus is always welcome.

For these same reasons, on our own initiative, we grant an exemption to the notice requirement of WAC 480-07-385(3)(c) (“at least five business days prior to the next scheduled deadline[.]”), as it pertains to the April 11, 2025, testimony deadline in this docket.²

The Commission finds good cause to suspend the procedural schedule, so as to allow an opportunity for the parties to finalize their settlement agreement. The parties must file either a settlement agreement and supporting documentation or a report on the status of their settlement negotiations by May 9, 2025. Should the parties fail to file a settlement by May 9, 2025, the Parties shall send proposed amendments to the procedural schedule no later than May 14, 2025.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That the procedural schedule in Docket UG-240884 is suspended.

THE COMMISSION GIVES FURTHER NOTICE That by May 9, 2025, the parties must file either a settlement agreement and supporting documentation or a status report of their negotiations.

/s/ Bijan Hughes

Bijan Hughes

Administrative Law Judge

² WAC 480-07-110(1) “The commission, in response to a request or on its own initiative, may grant an exemption from, or modify the application of, any of its rules in individual circumstances if the exemption or modification is consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation, and applicable statutes.”.