

**EXHIBIT NO. DEG-17
DOCKET NOS. UE-090704/UG-090705
2009 PSE GENERAL RATE CASE
WITNESS: DONALD E. GAINES**

**BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,**

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,

Respondent.

**Docket No. UE-090704
Docket No. UG-090705**

**SIXTH EXHIBIT (NONCONFIDENTIAL) TO THE
PREFILED REBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF
DONALD E. GAINES
ON BEHALF OF PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.**

DECEMBER 17, 2009

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION STAFF
RESPONSE TO DATA REQUEST

DATE PREPARED:	December 1, 2009	WITNESS:	David C. Parcell
DOCKET:	UE-090704/UG-090705	RESPONDER:	David C. Parcell
REQUESTER:	Puget Sound Energy	TELEPHONE:	360-664-1188

PSE Data Request No. 044 to WUTC Staff:

Regarding Exhibit No. DCP-1T, page 47, lines 1-5, and Exhibit No. DCP-17

Is it Mr. Parcell's testimony that PSE will, or is likely to, achieve a pre-tax interest coverage ratio of 3.04 in the rate year if all of WUTC Staff's recommendations are granted? Provide support for your conclusion.

RESPONSE:

Mr. Parcell's Exhibit Nos. DCP-17 and DCP-1T, page 47 indicate clearly that the 3.04 times interest coverage relates to the implied coverage associated with the cost of capital he is recommending. Mr. Parcell's testimony does not offer any calculations as to what rate of return PSE will actually earn in the rate year, as this would require a number of assumptions, which include the impact of "WUTC Staff's recommendations."