

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Application of

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

To Amend its Certificate of Public
Convenience and Necessity to Operate a
Gas Plant for Hire in the Riverbend,
Washington Area Within King County

DOCKET UG-180548

ORDER 01

GRANTING APPLICATION

BACKGROUND

- 1 On June 18, 2018, consistent with the requirements of Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 80.28.190, Puget Sound Energy (PSE or Company) filed an application to amend its present Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire (Application).
- 2 PSE is presently certificated for and is now providing gas service in King County. PSE is requesting a certificate to expand the service area in unincorporated King County near Riverbend, Washington, an unincorporated community.¹ The additional area requested is contiguous to the existing certificated area and does not overlap with certificated areas of another utility.²
- 3 The Application requests no determination at this time about the reasonableness of the gas pipeline facility servicing this addition to PSE's service area.
- 4 Commission staff (Staff) reviewed the Company's filing and believes that PSE is best suited to serve the requested service territory economically. No other gas provider is currently serving in this area.

¹ See maps in Exhibit B-1 and Exhibit B-2 of the filing.

² Legal description is shown in Exhibit B-3 of the filing.

DISCUSSION

5 We agree with Staff's recommendation. RCW 80.28.190 gives the Commission authority
to grant certificates of necessity and convivence to gas companies that we find are
operating in good faith and within the confines of the area for which such certificate shall
be sought.

6 We find that PSE is economically best situated to serve the requested service territory
because no other gas provider is currently serving in this area. Accordingly, the
Application should be granted to satisfy the public convenience and necessity.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

7 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with
the authority to regulate rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities,
and transfers of public service companies, including gas companies.

8 (2) PSE is a gas company and is a public service company subject Commission
jurisdiction.

9 (3) RCW 80.28.190 states no gas company shall operate in this state any gas plant for
hire without first having obtained from the Commission a certificate declaring
that public convenience and necessity requires or will require such operation and
setting forth the area or areas within which service is to be rendered.

10 (4) PSE has previously been issued a Certificate of Public Convenience and
Necessity to operate a gas plant for hire.

11 (5) PSE filed an Application to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and
Necessity to include an additional area in King County. This area is contiguous to
PSE's presently certificated area.

12 (6) Staff has reviewed the Company's Application and recommends approval of the
application to amend its certificate to include the additional area requested.

13 (7) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled
meeting on December 23, 2021.

- 14 (8) After reviewing the request filed by PSE and giving due consideration, the Commission finds it is consistent with the public convenience and necessity that PSE's Certificate be amended to reflect the addition of areas in the Riverbend, Washington area, located in King County.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 15 (1) The application of Puget Sound Energy to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire within the certificated area in King County is granted and the Certificate shall be amended in accordance with the legal description provided in the supplemental information filed on June 18, 2018, in B-3.
- 16 (2) This Order makes no determination at this time as to the reasonableness of the gas pipeline facility to serve this addition to Puget Sound Energy's service area and recognizes the right of the Commission to determine such reasonable services and expenditures, together with treatment of same, in any formal proceeding before the Commission dealing with Puget Sound Energy's results of operations for ratemaking purposes.
- 17 (3) 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 Executive Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective December 23, 2021.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

AMANDA MAXWELL
Executive Director and Secretary