J. Keliher 3215 N. 19th St. Tacoma, WA 98406

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**RECORDS MANAGEMENT** 

JUN 0 3 2020

STATE OF WASH.
UTIL. & TRANSP. COMMISSION

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission REFERENCE Puget Sound Energy UG-20012 Post Office Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504

3215 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street Tacoma, Washington 200112 98406 May 25, 2020

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Post Office Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504

REFERENCE: Puget Sound Energy UG-200112

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STATE OF WASH.
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We received the following letter from Puget Sound Energy Lease Services Agency dated May 18, 2020, regarding the sale of PSE's leasing service to Grand HVAC Leasing, a company headquartered in Canada. We have been unable to determine the following items of information that might be useful to us as consumers regarding what, precisely, the suggested sale would require. The alternatives given by PSE are:

- (1) To accept the sale and allow Grand HVAC Leasing to become the owner and leasing agent of the water heater in our basement.
- (2) To buy a water heater and agree to remove the present water heater in our basement, and return it to either PSE or Grand HVAC Leasing.
- (3) To buy the existing water heater. But whether that sale would be a transaction between us and PSE or between us and Grand HVAC is not not clear.

Further, the letter from PSE does not explain what differences might exist between the lease offered by PSE at present and those arrangements offered by Grand HVAC Leasing. Nor does it offer guidance regarding the possible cost of buying the existing water heater for either PSA or Grand HVAC Leasing.

Oddly, while the letter from PSE notes that the Public Council Unit of the Washington State Attorney General's Office may be reached via email at <a href="mailto:utility@atg.wa.gov">utility@atg.wa.gov</a>, the website of the Washington Attorney General's Office requests the members of the public not contact the Public Council Unit nor send it any documents. To what end, then, is this information offered by PSE?

In the absence of any specific evidence that the sale of Puget Sound Energy Leasing Services Agency to Grand HVAC Leasing would be advantages to the average consumer, and since we are an average consumer, this proposal would appear, on the face of its silence, significantly un-responsive to the questions: How much will this cost? What over all benefits will accrue to all parties if this transaction is completed? And, in the larger scheme of things, how will this transaction benefit the State of Washington?

Absent any pertinent information to these questions, one would have to assume that this proposal ought not to be accepted and UG-200112 ought to be rejected. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

John D. Keliher

## Notice of Requested Transfer of PSE Natural Gas Water Heater Rental Service



May 18, 2020

Dear Valued Customer,

On February 19, 2020, Puget Sound Energy (PSE) filed a request with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) to sell PSE's Water Heater Rental Service to Grand HVAC Leasing (GHL) for continued operation of the rental service, and to discontinue PSE's Gas Water Heater Rental Service on September 30, 2020, under its Natural Gas Schedules 71 and 72.

Our records indicate that you rent a gas water heater owned and maintained by PSE through the Gas Water Heater Rental Service program. If the UTC approves PSE's request to sell the Water Heater Rental Service to GHL, you will have the option of continuing your water heater rental service with GHL, taking ownership of the leased equipment, or having PSE remove the equipment. Please visit GHLSolutions.com for more information on GHL. PSE will provide additional information to you about all of the options if the UTC approves our request.

PSE requested the UTC approve the proposal before May 22, 2020, so that PSE could complete the transition process to GHL and discontinue service by September 30, 2020. The UTC elected to extend its review period and suspended the proposed schedule. The UTC's suspension will delay the date that PSE's request would be approved and possibly the date PSE's Water Heater Rental Service would be transferred. The UTC has authority to approve or modify other aspects of PSE's filed request, based on the results of its review. The parties in this filing have reached a settlement agreement that will be filed with the UTC by May 22, 2020. The UTC will evaluate the settlement and will decide whether to accept, reject or modify the settlement.

If you would like to participate in the UTC's process, you may comment on the proposed sale of the Water Heater Rental Service to GHL, and PSE's discontinuance of the service at a public hearing held by the UTC on June 18, 2020 at 6 pm. In response to COVID-19, there will be no inperson meeting. You can participate in this meeting via telephone and Skype. You may call into the June 18, 2020, 6 pm hearing by calling (360) 407-3810 and entering conference ID number 5023028 at the prompt. Additional information about this case can be found on the UTC's website at <a href="www.utc.wa.gov/200112">www.utc.wa.gov/200112</a> (NOTE: the 'www' portion of the web address must be entered in order to access the site). The website will also provide you with additional information on this case.