

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKETS UE-072300 &
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	UG-072301(<i>consolidated</i>)
)	
Complainant,)	DOCKET UG-080064
)	
v.)	
)	ORDER 05
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,)	
)	ORDER GRANTING
Respondent.)	CONSOLIDATION and FINAL
)	ORDER AUTHORIZING TARIFF
)	REVISIONS
.....)	

MEMORANDUM

- 1 On December 3, 2007, Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE), filed a general rate case with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) seeking revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-60, Tariff G, Electric Service and Tariff WN U-2, Gas Service, Advice No. 2007-35, including tariff sheets governing Schedule 50, Compressed Natural Gas Service for Motor Vehicles. The Commission suspended the filing and set the matter for hearing.

- 2 On January 9, 2008, PSE filed in Docket UG-080064 a request for authorization to eliminate Schedule 50, effective February 9, 2008. PSE acknowledged in its request that relevant tariff sheets were then subject to the Commission’s suspension order in Dockets UE-072300 and UG-072301 (consolidated).

- 3 On January 30, 2008, PSE filed its Motion to Consolidate and Authorize Tariff Revision, requesting that the Commission consolidate Docket UG-080064 into the general rate case dockets. PSE also asked the Commission to act expeditiously on its request for authority to eliminate Schedule 50, rather than awaiting the conclusion of the general rate proceeding later this year.

- 4 Commission regulatory staff (Staff) filed a response to PSE's motion stating that Staff does not oppose it and believes PSE has provided sufficient justification for the Commission to approve the requested tariff revision without delay.
- 5 PSE's Schedule 50 has only three remaining customers. Simultaneous with its filing on January 9, 2008, PSE provided notice to the affected customers, none of whom has contacted the Commission concerning the filing. According to PSE, only two customers are regular users, the largest being a Sea-Tac based taxi association. PSE states that a private company is now offering compressed natural gas service at Sea-Tac, which is available to serve the Sea-Tac based taxis. PSE's applications says that this same company has scheduled the opening of a fourth public station in PSE's service area in January 2008 and is planning to open a fifth station in the Seattle area by the end of 2008. PSE states that all of this alternative service provider's stations are open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, whereas PSE's single location is only available Monday through Friday during normal working hours. PSE also says that compressed natural gas service for vehicles is available from another provider in Seattle. PSE anticipates that elimination of Schedule 50 will encourage further expansion in the non-regulated sector.
- 6 PSE states in summary that it desires to discontinue service under Schedule 50 because (1) such service is conveniently available now from other providers that are in the business of providing this service; (2) continuation of this service will require that the Company invest in replacing or upgrading the equipment used for tracking and billing the retail sales; and (3) there are security issues associated with maintaining the only Company location where this service is offered.
- 7 PSE has shown good and sufficient reasons in support of its request to remove Schedule 50 from its natural gas tariff. The availability of such service from other providers appears to mitigate any potential harm to customers from the cessation of PSE's offering of compressed natural gas for vehicles. Cost savings, including the costs to replace or upgrade equipment and to improve security support a finding that it is in the public interest to grant PSE's request.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 8 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including electric and gas companies, *RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.28.*
- 9 (2) PSE is an electric company, a gas company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 10 (3) The tariff revisions PSE filed on January 9, 2008, are reasonable and it is in the public interest for the Commission to authorize the requested changes, subject to PSE refileing the subject tariff sheets with an effective date subsequent to the date of this Order.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) Docket UG-080064 is consolidated into Dockets UE-072300 and UG-072301 (consolidated) for determination, pursuant to WAC 480-07-320.
- 12 (2) The tariff revisions Puget Sound Energy, Inc. filed on January 9, 2008, in Docket UG-080064, which would remove Schedule 50, Compressed Natural Gas Service for Motor Vehicles from Puget Sound Energy, Inc. WN U-2 Tariff for natural gas service, are approved.
- 13 (3) Puget Sound Energy, Inc. is authorized and required to make a compliance filing as necessary to effectuate the terms of this Order.
- 14 (4) The Commission's Executive Secretary is authorized to accept by letter, with copies to all parties to this proceeding, a filing that complies with the requirements of this Order.

- 15 (5) The Commission retains jurisdiction to effectuate the terms of this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective February 12, 2008.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK H. SIDRAN, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner

NOTICE TO PARTIES: This is a Commission Final Order. In addition to judicial review, administrative relief may be available through a petition for reconsideration, filed within 10 days of the service of this order pursuant to RCW 34.05.470 and WAC 480-07-850, or a petition for rehearing pursuant to RCW 80.04.200 and WAC 480-07-870.