



Bob Ferguson  
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April 12, 2017

**VIA UTC WEB PORTAL AND ABC LMI**

Gregory Kopta  
Administrative Law Judge  
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission  
1300 S. Evergreen Pk. Dr. S.W.  
P. O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

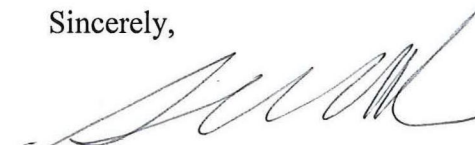
Re: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Puget Sound Energy*,  
Docket PG-160924

Dear Judge Kopta:

Public Counsel writes this letter in response to Commission Staff's letter dated today, April 12, 2017. In Staff's letter, they request that the Commission modify the procedural schedule in the above-captioned case to require Public Counsel to file testimony by Friday, April 14, 2017. This is unnecessarily punitive.

By notice dated March 29, 2017, the Commission set a deadline of May 1 for filing testimony in support of or in opposition to the settlement filed by Commission Staff and Puget Sound Energy. In the settlement documents filed by Staff and Puget, they noted that Public Counsel may join or oppose the settlement at a later date. In fact, Public Counsel will support the inspection and remediation plan, but we disagree with respect to penalties. This position is not a surprise or unanticipated by the parties or the Commission. Public Counsel respectfully requests that the Commission decline to modify the schedule it set in its March 29<sup>th</sup> notice.

Sincerely,

 Shannon Smith  
for  
LISA W. GAFKEN  
Assistant Attorney General  
Public Counsel Unit  
(206) 464-6595

LWG:cm

cc: Service List (via E-mail and First Class Mail)

