BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

Respondent.

In the Matter of the Petition of

PUGET SOUND ENERGY

For an Order Authorizing Deferred Accounting Treatment for Puget Sound Energy’s Share of Costs Associated with the Tacoma LNG Facility

EXHIBIT TO TESTIMONY OF

MOLLY A. BREWER

STAFF OF
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

PSE Response to UTC Staff Data Request No. 160

July 28, 2022
BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Dockets UE-220066 & UG-220067
Puget Sound Energy
2022 General Rate Case

WUTC STAFF DATA REQUEST NO. 160:
REQUESTED BY: Molly Brewer

Re: Capital Planning

In PSE’s grid modernization strategy in Exh. CAK-5, Appendix C, on page 7 (using the page numbers added during filing, found in the top right corner of each page) outlines that one of the guiding principles is “Equitable”. Page 8 of Exh. CAK-5, Appendix C, outlines the need of “Customer expectations and Equity”. Please provide any documents PSE has that further elaborates on how the “Equitable” guiding principle and the “Customer Expectations and Equity” need are incorporated into the capital planning process.

Part 2: Please provide any documents that show how the above aspects are incorporated into the pipeline modernization strategy, if applicable.

Response:

Please see Puget Sound Energy’s (“PSE”) Responses to WUTC Staff Data Request Nos. 073, 074, 080, and 157, including the attachments, that discuss how PSE is incorporating the objectives of the Clean Energy Transformation Act (“CETA”) and will continue to develop processes that incorporate equity values, appropriate to delivery system investments, in support of PSE’s Grid Modernization Strategy guiding principles. Sections 5.1 and 5.2 of the referenced Grid Modernization Strategy discuss how Grid Modernization requires the reevaluation and improvement of PSE’s work systems, such as Delivery System Planning and Stakeholder Engagement processes.

As stated in the Prefiled Direct Testimony of Catherine A. Koch, Exh. CAK-1T, pipeline modernization is not driven by CETA, but provides similar opportunities to drive transformation and operational changes to reduce methane emissions, which implicitly supports equity type benefits. PSE’s development and adoption of a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Playbook (referred to as the “Playbook”) presents the vision for diversity, equity and inclusion (“DEI”) at PSE, including PSE’s roadmap, focus areas, leadership’s role and how PSE plans to advance its current efforts. DEI is a broader effort of PSE; it

1 PSE incorporates the objections identified in its Responses to WUTC Staff Data Request Nos. 073, 074, 080, and 157.
is not specific to any statutory mandate but reflects PSE’s corporate commitment to equity. Customers are among the focus areas of the Playbook in which PSE strives for all customers to have “equitable access to clean energy and experience [PSE] in a manner that reflects our values and their communities.” The purpose of the Playbook “is to articulate a shared vision and strategy roadmap to support our decentralized model for managing DEI” and to “help keep us aligned and moving in the same direction.” The Playbook is attached as Attachment A to PSE’s Response to WUTC Staff Data Request No. 062. PSE’s delivery system planning process is the same process for grid modernization and pipeline investments and as such as this process matures and PSE embodies the DEI playbook into actions, these guiding principles will be incorporated in the appropriate way.