

EXHIBIT NO. ___(JHS-11)
DOCKET NO. UE-06 ___/UG-06 ___
2006 PSE GENERAL RATE CASE
WITNESS: JOHN H. STORY

**BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,**

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,

Respondent.

Docket No. UE-06 ___
Docket No. UG-06 ___

**TENTH EXHBIT (NONCONFIDENTIAL) TO THE
PREFILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF
JOHN H. STORY
ON BEHALF OF PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.**

FEBRUARY 15, 2006

1 **PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.**

2 **TENTH EXHIBIT (NONCONFIDENTIAL) TO THE**
3 **PREFILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF JOHN H. STORY**

4 **Q. What is the purpose of this exhibit to your prefiled direct testimony?**

5 A. This exhibit to my prefiled direct testimony describes how the Company
6 performed the attrition calculations using the methodology for attrition
7 allowances that has been approved in prior Washington rate cases. The results of
8 this attrition calculation are referenced in my prefiled direct testimony.

9 **Q. Would you please give a general description of how the Company performed**
10 **the attrition calculations using the methodology for attrition allowances that**
11 **has been approved in prior Washington rate cases?**

12 A. The Company reviewed prior filings where attrition adjustments were proposed
13 and found that the most common methodology accepted in Washington used
14 trending for revenues and certain costs. There was not a definitive procedure
15 adopted by the Commission in any particular case. However, general guidelines
16 are discussed in the various Commission orders dealing with this topic.

17 **Q. What are some of those general guidelines?**

1 A. The trending methodology is designed to measure the recovery of changing costs
2 under a fixed rate condition. Because it relies on a rate of return measure, any
3 changes in rates or allowed returns need to be eliminated to put the time periods
4 that are being analyzed on an equal basis. The traditional analysis should also
5 cover time periods in which expenditures for capital investment are similar. This
6 is necessary so that the impacts of the capital additions are captured as they
7 impact cost levels. The Commission also stated, in Cause Nos. U-80-25 and U
8 80-27, that the time periods analyzed should reflect appropriate rate making
9 adjustments. However, several attrition adjustments approved by the Commission
10 did not have these restating and pro forma adjustments reflected for the years used
11 in the trending analysis.

12 **Q. Did the Company apply these general guidelines to its attrition analysis?**

13 A. Yes. I will discuss the electric attrition analysis, and Mr. Karzmar discusses the
14 natural gas attrition analysis.

15 Application of the traditional method of measuring attrition is a challenge with
16 respect to any analysis of electric operations for PSE because of the PCORC rate
17 changes that have been implemented in the last couple of years in between
18 general rate cases. PSE addressed the impact of the interim rate increases due to
19 PCORC by removing the impact of the PCA revenues and the underlying PCA
20 costs from the attrition analysis. For the trending analysis, the Company used the
21 pro formed and restated income statement and ratebase from the last general rate

1 case, as allowed, compared to the current pro formed income statement and
2 ratebase as filed in this general rate case. Data for these periods were chosen
3 because they are current and have been adjusted for rate purposes.

4 **Q. Was it necessary to adjust ratebase for new resources that were added under**
5 **the PCA Mechanism?**

6 A. Yes, in order to remain consistent with the removal of the underlying costs related
7 to the PCA, the Company adjusted rate base for the production plant that is
8 included in the PCA rate. In addition to this adjustment, the Company had to
9 adjust ratebase for "bonus tax depreciation". For the years 2001 through 2004,
10 the Federal government allowed a 50% bonus depreciation to be taken for certain
11 capital expenditures. The bonus depreciation created additional deferred taxes
12 that are a deduction from ratebase. This bonus depreciation is no longer
13 available, so the impact of this additional tax benefit was removed from ratebase
14 before measuring the growth trend for ratebase. After determining the growth
15 trend, we applied the difference in ratebase growth from the two test periods to
16 the non-PCA related ratebase for September 30, 2005 as this would have been the
17 trended value without bonus tax depreciation.

18 **Q. What did the trended attrition analysis for electric operations show?**

19 A. The estimated attrition between the test year and the rate year is an under
20 recovery of approximately \$1.7 million net operating income. Exhibit

1 No. ___(JHS-12) shows the attrition calculation.

2 **Q. Would you please describe Exhibit No. ___(JHS-12)?**

3 A. Yes. Page 1 of this Exhibit shows the income statement and ratebase for the
4 September 30, 2003 and 2005 test periods after adjusting each pro forma and
5 restated test year for its respective rate increase. For the year 2003 the rate
6 increase was the allowed rate increase for that time period, and for 2005 the rate
7 increase is the requested rate increase in the current filing. Each line of the
8 income statement was adjusted by appropriate growth factors to arrive at the rate
9 year equivalent amount for that line item. For example, Sales to Customers,
10 \$509,806,957 on line 1, was adjusted by dividing the September 30, 2005
11 revenues for this item by the delivered load for that period, which is shown at the
12 top of the September 30, 2005 column, 20,339,226,968 kWhs. This average rate
13 was then multiplied by the delivered load for the rate period, 20,522,175,000
14 kWhs to estimate the rate year revenues of \$514,392,587.

15 Some items were adjusted by the annualized growth rate of the dollar amounts for
16 the September 30, 2003 to September 30, 2005, a two year time period. This
17 annualized growth rate was then used to project the equivalent amount in the rate
18 year which is 2.25 years from the current test period. Line 4 shows this
19 calculation for Other Operating Revenues. The annualized growth rate between
20 September 30, 2003 and September 30, 2005 is 0.048725268. Applying this
21 growth rate to the September 30, 2005 amount for this item results in revenues of

1 \$35,411,730 for the rate year.

2 Some line items are not adjusted by growth rates as the line item is insignificant
3 or is an item that reflects amortization that does not change between the periods.

4 In these cases, the current test period amounts are carried over to the rate year.

5 Line 2, Sales from Resale - Firm, is an example of this--the revenues are
6 decreasing slightly between the test periods, but the amount of the item in the
7 current test period, \$478,623, is insignificant. Line 22, Amortization of Property
8 Loss, is an example of an amortization amount that will not change between the
9 current test period and the rate year.

10 For each line item that changes, the current tax impact is calculated and the total
11 tax change is added to Line 30, Federal Income Taxes, as shown in the last
12 column on page 1 of this Exhibit. Ratebase is adjusted as shown on Lines 43 and
13 44 on page 1. The growth rate for electric ratebase since the last general rate case
14 was negative when production ratebase is removed and was still negative after
15 removing the 50% bonus tax discussed earlier for both the 2003 and 2005 test
16 period. This negative annualized growth factor was applied to the September 30,
17 2005 ratebase to determine the 2007 ratebase amount. The difference between
18 these two ratebase amounts was then applied to the September 30, 2005 ratebase
19 amount before any adjustment for the 50% bonus depreciation. This calculation
20 results in a 2007 estimated ratebase amount of \$1,595,512,498 shown on Line 36.

21 The calculation of the actual attrition was the result of all of the above

1 calculations. The adjusted ratebase was multiplied by the requested rate of return
2 to determine the net operating income required to earn the rate of return. This
3 amount was then compared to the net operating income shown on page 1, Line 34
4 of the Exhibit, which is the result of the adjustments that were made to the income
5 statement. The difference shows that there is an under recovery in net operating
6 income of approximately \$1.7 million dollars in the rate year, as shown on page 1,
7 Line 39 of the Exhibit.

8 **Q. Please explain page 2 of Exhibit No. ___(JHS-12).**

9 A. Page 2 of this Exhibit shows the pro forma adjusted test period income statement
10 and ratebase for September 30, 2005, after adding the requested revenue increase
11 in this proceeding, and September 30, 2003 after adding in the revenue increase
12 allowed in the 2004 general rate case. The income statement and ratebase for
13 each of these periods is then adjusted for the PCA related costs and ratebase to
14 determine the income statement and ratebase without production related costs or
15 ratebase used on page 1 of this exhibit. Line 43 through Line 45 on this page also
16 shows the adjustment to the non-production related rate base for the 50% bonus
17 depreciation.

18 [\[BA060430012\]](#)