

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET NO. UE-050870
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)	
	)	ORDER NO. 01
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	
	)	COMPLAINT AND ORDER
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,	)	SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS;
	)	INSTITUTING INVESTIGATION;
Respondent.	)	AUTHORIZING DISCOVERY
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On June 7, 2005, Puget Sound Energy, Inc., (“PSE” or the Company) filed with the Commission revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-60, designated as Twenty Seventh Revised Sheet No. 95, Second Revised Sheet 95-a, Third Revised Sheet 95-b, Second Revised Sheets 95-c through 95-e, and Original Sheet Nos. 95-f through 95-k. The stated effective date is July 8, 2005. This filing is a proposal to change PSE's rates recovering the cost of power as a result of its decision to purchase a new generating resource, among other reasons. The filing is authorized by the Settlement Stipulation approved by the Commission in Docket Nos. UE-011570 and UG-011571.
- 2     The filing would increase charges and rates for service provided by PSE. Because those increases might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public and PSE has not demonstrated that the increases would result in rates that are fair, just and reasonable, the Commission suspends the tariff filing and will hold public hearings if necessary to determine whether the proposed increases are fair, just and reasonable.

3 The parties to the referenced Settlement Stipulation contemplated expedited  
review of the request, and the matter is significant. Based on the nature of the  
filing, the information in the filing and the information presented at the open  
meeting at which suspension was discussed, the Commission finds that this  
matter is one appropriate for the use of discovery as identified and permitted by  
WAC 480-07-400 and WAC 480-07-405.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 4 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of  
the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate  
rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public  
service companies, including electric companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter  
80.04 RCW; and Chapter 80.28 RCW.*
- 5 (2) PSE is an electric company and is a public service company subject to the  
jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 6 (3) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled  
meeting on June 15, 2005.
- 7 (4) The tariff revisions filed by PSE on June 7, 2005, would increase charges  
and rates for service provided by PSE, and might injuriously affect the  
rights and interest of the public.
- 8 (5) PSE has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates  
that are fair, just and reasonable.
- 9 (6) In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law,  
and as authorized in RCW 80.04.130, the Commission believes it is

necessary to investigate PSE's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of PSE's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of PSE's operations.

- 10 (7) As required by RCW 80.04.130(2), PSE bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just and reasonable.
- 11 (8) PSE may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 80.20 RCW.

## ORDER

### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 12 (1) The tariff revisions filed on June 7, 2005, are suspended.
- 13 (2) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 14 (3) Puget Sound Energy, Inc., must not change or alter the tariffs filed in this docket during the suspension period, unless authorized by the Commission.
- 15 (4) The Commission will institute an investigation of Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s, books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations as described above.

- 16 (5) The Commission invokes the discovery rule, WAC 480-07-400 and WAC 480-07-405, in this proceeding.
- 17 (6) Puget Sound Energy, Inc., shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 80.20 RCW.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2005.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK H. SIDRAN, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner