# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

) DOCKET NO. UE-040641
)
) DOCKET NO. UG-040640
)
) ORDER NO. 01
)
)
) COMPLAINT AND ORDER
) SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS
) AND ORDER OF
) CONSOLIDATION
)

#### **BACKGROUND**

- On April 5, 2004, Puget Sound Energy, Inc (PSE) filed with the Commission revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-60, Tariff G, Electric Service, Advice No. 2004-09, and revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-2, Gas Service, Advice No. 2004-10, as listed in the appendix attached to this Order. The stated effective date of the proposed tariff revisions is May 6, 2004. The proposed revisions implement a general rate increase of 6.5 percent for the electric tariffs and 6.29 percent for the gas tariffs.
- On April 9, 2004, PSE requested authority to file the revisions to its electric tariff, per the Commission's order of suspension in Docket No. UE-031725, involving the Company's power cost adjustment. The order requires such permission for filing any revisions to the tariffs under suspension in that docket. PSE also argued that the filing did not come within the terms of the prohibition, without permission, of subsequent filings. The Commission finds that the tariffs are interrelated that decisions in the prior docket will affect the prosecution of Docket No. UE-040641. The Commission grants permission. Because a Commission order in Docket No. UE-031725 is imminent, uncertainty about the

results of that proceeding are not expected to hamper prosecution of the electric general rate increase proceeding.

- The filings 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.
- The foregoing matters appear to involve related facts and principles of law. It is appropriate that they be consolidated for hearing and determination pursuant to WAC 480-07-320.

#### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) PSE is an Electric company and a Gas company and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 6 (2) The tariff revisions filed by PSE on April 5, 2004 would increase charges and rates for service provided by PSE, and might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public.
- 7 (3) The prosecution of Docket No. UE-040641 will not affect issues in Docket No. UE-031725, and the result in Docket No. UE-031725 will be known in sufficient time that the prosecution of Docket No. UE-040641 will not be unduly delayed.
- 8 (4) PSE has not demonstrated that the increased rates and charges in its tariff revisions would result in rates that are fair, just, and reasonable.

- 9 (5) As required by RCW 80.04.130, PSE bears the burden of proof to show that the proposed increases are fair, just, and reasonable.
- In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in RCW 80.20.20, the Commission believes it 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. PSE may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the investigation to the extent the requirements for such payment are consistent or authorized by chapter 80.20 RCW.

#### **ORDER**

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) The Commission authorizes filing of the electric tariff revisions that the Company presented to the Commission on April 5, 2004, in Docket No. UE-040641, which are accepted for filing as of the date received by the Commission.
- 12 (2) The tariff revisions filed on April 5, 2004, in these dockets are suspended.
- 13 (3) The matters are consolidated for hearing and determination pursuant to WAC 480-07-320.
- 14 (4) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.

- 15 (5) PSE must not during the suspension period change or alter the tariffs affected by the revisions filed in this docket, unless authorized to do so by the Commission.
- 16 (6) The Commission will institute an investigation of PSE 's books, accounts, practices, activities, property and operations, as described above.
- 17 (7) PSE 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.
- 18 (8) As required by WAC 480-80-125, PSE must supply a notice to all affected customers in the form and manner specified in WAC 480-90-125.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 28th day of April, 2004.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

## Appendix

### WN U-60, Tariff G, Electric Service:

24th Revised	Sheet No. 7	Residential Service
23rd Revised	Sheet No. 24	General Service
12th Revised	Sheet No. 25	Small Demand General Service
7 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 25-a	Small Demand General Service (Continued)
12th Revised	Sheet No. 26	Large Demand General Service
19th Revised	Sheet No. 29	Seasonal Irrigation & Drainage Pumping Service
24th Revised	Sheet No. 31	Primary General Service
18th Revised	Sheet No. 35	Seasonal Primary Irrigation & Drainage Pumping Service
15th Revised	Sheet No. 43-a	Interruptible Primary Service For Total-Electric Schools
		(Continued)
24th Revised	Sheet No. 46	High Voltage Interruptible Service
7 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 46-a	High Voltage Interruptible Service (Continued)
23rd Revised	Sheet No. 49	High Voltage General Service
23rd Revised	Sheet No. 50	Limited Street Lighting Service
10th Revised	Sheet No. 52-a	Custom Lighting Service Company Owned (Continued)
10th Revised	Sheet No. 53-a	Street Lighting Service Sodium Vapor (Continued)
7 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 53-b	Street Lighting Service Sodium Vapor (Continued)
24th Revised	Sheet No. 54	Customer-Owned Street Lighting Energy Service Sodium
		Vapor
23 <sup>rd</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 55	Area Lighting Service
7 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 55-a	Area Lighting Service (Continued)
21st Revised	Sheet No. 57	Continuous Lighting Service
19th Revised	Sheet No. 58	Flood Lighting Service
7 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 58-a	Flood Lighting Service (Continued)
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 449-i	Retail Wheeling Service

### WN U-2, Natural Gas Service:

4th Revised	Sheet No. 116-A	General Gas Lighting and Street Lighting Service
		(Optional) (Continued)
48 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 123	Residential General Service
43 <sup>rd</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 131	Commercial and Industrial General Service
29 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 136-B	Special Commercial Heating Service (Optional) (Continued)
50th Revised	Sheet No. 141	Large Volume High Load Factor Gas Service (Optional)
6 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 150	Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) for Vehicle Fuel
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 151-A	Special Multiple Unit Housing Service (Optional) (Continued)
5 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 153-B	Propane Service (Continued)
9th Revised	Sheet No. 157-B	Distribution System Transportation Service (Firm and Interruptible) (Continued)
9th Revised	Sheet No. 157-C	Distribution System Transportation Service (Firm and Interruptible) (Continued)
4 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 157-G	Distribution System Transportation Service (Firm and Interruptible) (Continued)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 157-H	Distribution System Transportation Service (Firm and Interruptible) (Continued)
19th Revised	Sheet No. 171	Residential Water Heater Rental Service
20th Revised	Sheet No. 172	Large Volume Water Heater Rental Service
13th Revised	Sheet No. 174	Gas Conversion Burner Rental Service
11 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 185-C	Interruptible Gas Service with Firm Option (Continued)
14 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 185-D	Interruptible Gas Service with Firm Option (Continued)
11 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 186-C	Limited Interruptible Gas Service with Firm Option (Optional) (Continued)
12 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 186-D	Limited Interruptible Gas Service with Firm Option (Optional) (Continued)
12 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 187-D	Non-Exclusive Interruptible Gas Service with Firm Option (Optional) (Continued)
25 <sup>th</sup> Revised	Sheet No. 1101	Gas Cost Rates
1st Revised	Sheet No. 1101-B	Gas Cost Rates (Continued)
28th Revised	Sheet No. 1106	Deferred Account Adjustment