

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKETS UE-072300
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	and UG-072301 (<i>consolidated</i>)
)	
Complainant,)	ORDER 27
)	
v.)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
)	ORDER; NOTICE OF HEARING
PUGET SOUND ENERGY,)	(Set for October 5, 2016)
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	

1 **NATURE OF PROCEEDING.** On November 30, 2015, Puget Sound Energy (PSE or Company) filed a Petition requesting an order from the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) that authorizes permanent modifications to the Company’s Service Quality Index (SQI) No. 3: System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI). Staff answered PSE’s Petition on December 21, 2015. Staff opposes PSE’s Petition, in part, because in Staff’s view the Company’s proposed modifications would fail to ensure that PSE customers will not experience deterioration in quality of service. Public Counsel filed a letter on December 21, 2015, responding to, and opposing, PSE’s petition. Public Counsel argues that “the company’s Petition raises several issues that will require further investigation and review from stakeholders.”

2 In Order 26, the Commission found good cause in Staff’s and Public Counsel’s answers to PSE’s petition to reopen the record in this proceeding and to conduct a prehearing conference to determine what process should be used to bring this matter to finality and permanently close these dockets. The Commission, therefore, ordered that the record in this proceeding is reopened to consider PSE’s petition.

3 **CONFERENCE.** The Commission convened a prehearing conference in this docket at Olympia, Washington, on January 22, 2016, before Administrative Law Judge Dennis J. Moss.

4 **APPEARANCES.** Sheree Strom Carson, Perkins Coie, Bellevue, Washington, represents the Company. Christopher M. Casey and Andrew J. O’Connell, Assistant Attorneys General, Olympia, Washington, represent Staff.¹ Lisa W. Gafken, Assistant

¹ In formal proceedings, such as this, the Commission’s regulatory staff participates like any other party, while the Commissioners make the decision. To assure fairness, the Commissioners, the

Attorney General, Seattle, Washington, represents Public Counsel. Contact information for the parties' representatives is attached as Appendix A to this Order.

5 **PETITIONS FOR INTERVENTION.** There were no petitions to intervene.

6 **DISCOVERY.** Discovery will be conducted pursuant to the Commission's discovery rules, WAC 480-07-400 – 425. The Commission urges the parties to work cooperatively together to avoid having to bring discovery matters forward for formal resolution.

7 **PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE.** The Commission adopts the procedural schedule that is attached to this Order as Appendix B.

8 **DOCUMENT PREPARATION AND FILING REQUIREMENTS.** Parties must file an original plus **one** copy of all pleadings, motions, briefs, and other prefiled materials that include all public, confidential, and highly confidential information, and **one** redacted copy of any documents bearing confidential or highly confidential designations. These materials must conform to the format and publication guidelines in WAC 480-07-395 and WAC 480-07-460. The Commission prefers that materials be three-hole punched with *oversized* holes to allow easy handling. The Commission may require a party to refile any document that fails to conform to these standards.

9 All filings must be mailed or delivered to the Executive Director and Secretary, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, P.O. Box 47250, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W. Olympia, Washington 98504-7250. Both the post office box and street address are required to expedite deliveries by the U.S. Postal Service.

10 An electronic copy of all filings must be provided through the Commission's Web Portal (www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing) or by e-mail delivery to records@utc.wa.gov. Alternatively, parties may furnish an electronic copy by delivering with each filing a flash drive, DVD, or CD including the filed document(s). Parties must furnish electronic copies in MS Word 6.0 (or later) supplemented by a separate file in .pdf (Adobe Acrobat) format except as otherwise provided in this order or the Commission's procedural rules. Parties must follow WAC 480-07-140(5) in organizing and identifying electronic files.

11 **ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS.** Parties must submit documents electronically to the Commission on the filing deadline established in the procedural schedule and must file an original, plus required copies of the documents with the

presiding administrative law judge, and the Commissioners' policy and accounting advisors do not discuss the merits of this proceeding with the regulatory staff, or any other party, without giving notice and opportunity for all parties to participate. *See*, RCW 34.05.455.

Commission by 5:00 p.m. on the first business day following the filing deadline as provided in WAC 480-07-145(6) and in paragraph 10 of this Order. Parties may submit documents electronically through the Commission's Web Portal (www.utc.wa.gov/efiling) or by e-mail to records@utc.wa.gov. Finally, to perfect filing, parties must simultaneously serve the other parties and provide e-mail courtesy copies of filings to the presiding administrative law judge (dmooss@utc.wa.gov).

- 12 **CONSENT TO ELECTRONIC SERVICE.** All parties have agreed to service electronically. The Commission, therefore, may serve only electronic copies of notices and orders in this docket to the party and representative email addresses on file with the Commission.
- 13 **NOTICE OF HEARING:** The Commission will hold an evidentiary hearing in this matter on **Wednesday, October 5, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.**
- 14 **ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION.** The Commission supports the informal settlement of matters before it. Parties are encouraged to consider means of resolving disputes informally. The Commission does have limited ability to provide dispute resolution services; if you wish to explore those services, please call the Director, Administrative Law Division, at 360-664-1355.
- 15 **NOTICE TO PARTIES:** A party who objects to any portion of this Order must file a written objection within ten (10) calendar days after the service date of this Order, pursuant to WAC 480-07-430 and WAC 480-07-810. The service date appears on the first page of the order in the upper right-hand corner. Absent such objection, this Order will control further proceedings in this matter, subject to Commission review.

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective January 22, 2016.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DENNIS J. MOSS
Administrative Law Judge

APPENDIX A
PARTIES' REPRESENTATIVES
DOCKETS UE-072300 and UG-072301 (consolidated)

PARTY	REPRESENTATIVE	PHONE	E-MAIL
PSE	Sheree Strom Carson Perkins Coie, LLP 10885 N.E. Fourth St. Bellevue, WA 98004-5579	425-635-1400	scarson@perkinscoie.com
	Ken Johnson Director - Rates & Regulatory Affairs Puget Sound Energy P.O. Box 97034, PSE-08N Bellevue, WA 98009-9734	425-456-2110	ken.s.johnson@pse.com
Staff	Christopher M. Casey Andrew J. O'Connell Office of the Attorney General Utilities and Transportation Division 1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504-0128	360-664-1189 360-664-1192	CCasey@utc.wa.gov AConnell@utc.wa.gov
Public Counsel	Lisa W. Gafken Assistant Attorney General Washington State Attorney General's Office Public Counsel 800 5 th Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104-3188	206-464-6595	lisaw4@atg.wa.gov

APPENDIX B
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
DOCKETS UE-072300 and UG-072301 (consolidated)

EVENT	DATE
Settlement Conferences (parties only)	T/B/D in January and February, as needed
File Stipulation or Discovery Motions, as appropriate	March 3, 2016
Company Direct Testimony and Exhibits	May 11, 2016
Staff and Public Counsel Response Testimony and Exhibits	August 17, 2016
Company Rebuttal Testimony and Exhibits; Staff and Public Counsel Cross-Answering Testimony and Exhibits	September 9, 2016
Discovery Cut-off	September 21, 2016
Cross-Examination Exhibits, Witness lists, and time estimates	September 28, 2016
Evidentiary Hearing	October 5, 2016
Initial Briefs	November 2, 2016
Reply Briefs, if necessary to address new issues	November 9, 2016