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. 114

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. 114:
REQUESTED BY: Molly Brewer

Re: Capital Planning

Provide documents that show how the models referenced in Roque Bamba’s testimony (Exh. RBB-1T) including but not limited to the Project Lifecycle Model, Infrastructure Program Management model, PSE Enterprise Program Management Organization, Project Management Institute, and Project Management Book of Knowledge contain frameworks for incorporating the value/benefit of equity into management of projects and programs throughout their lifecycle. If these documents exist, provide internal documents that show how PSE has used these frameworks to plan for equitable outcomes of its projects and programs during the project lifecycle. Provide in original format, preferably in Word or a text-searchable PDF.

Response:

WUTC Staff Data Request No. 114 appears to be an implicit reference to RCW 19.405.040(8). Puget Sound Energy (“PSE”) objects to the interpretation of RCW 19.405.040(8) that appears to underlie WUTC Staff Data Request No. 114 which PSE views as overly broad and inconsistent with the language and intent of the statute. To the extent this data request seeks to impose or imply requirements on PSE pursuant to RCW 19.405.040(8) that go beyond the scope of Chapter 19.405 RCW, PSE objects.

More specifically, to the extent this data request interprets RCW 19.405.040(8) to apply beyond the transition to clean electricity set forth in Chapter 19.405 RCW, PSE objects to the interpretation. To the extent this data request interprets the statute to mandate that all company investment decisions, policies and procedures are required to expressly address how all customers will benefit from the transition to clean electricity, PSE objects to the interpretation. To the extent this data request fails to recognize the magnitude and length of the clean energy transformation set forth in the statute, and expects an immediate and wholesale revision of PSE’s policies and procedures at this early date when rules have just recently been adopted, PSE objects.

Without waiving these objections and subject thereto, PSE responds as follows:

PSE’s Response to WUTC Staff Data Request No. 114
Date of Response: April 7, 2022
Person who Prepared the Response: Peter McKenzie
Witness Knowledgeable About the Response: Roque B. Bamba
Chapter 19.405 RCW, which was passed less than three years ago, mandates a transition to 100 percent clean electricity that is to take place over a quarter-century, with interim requirements along the way. Rules to implement the statutory mandates were adopted only recently. Subsection (8) of RCW 19.405.040 requires that “in complying with” the transition to clean electricity, an “electric utility must, consistent with the requirements of RCW 19.280.030\(^1\) and 19.405.140,\(^2\) ensure that all customers are benefiting from the transition to clean energy.” Consistent with the statute, PSE is taking action to ensure that all customers are benefiting from the transition to clean energy over the next twenty-three years, and this is reflected in PSE’s Clean Energy Action Plan, Integrated Resource Plan, Clean Energy Implementation Plan, and performance-based metrics, to name a few.

In addition, PSE developed and adopted a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Playbook (referred to as the “Playbook”) to present 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 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 them 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. 62.

Specifically related to WUTC Staff Data Request No. 114, PSE does not possess documents that show how the models referenced in the Prefiled Direct Testimony of Roque Bamba Exh. RBB-1T including but not limited to the Project Lifecycle Model, Infrastructure Program Management model, PSE Enterprise Program Management Organization, Project Management Institute, and Project Management Book of Knowledge contain frameworks for incorporating the value/benefit of equity into management of projects and programs throughout their lifecycle.

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\(^1\) Addresses development of integrated resource plans and clean energy action plans.

\(^2\) Requires a cumulative impact analysis to designate the communities highly impacted by fossil fuel pollution and climate change, to be completed by the department of health December 31, 2020, with rules to be adopted by December 31, 2021.