

[Service Date February 24, 2004]

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET NO. UG-031216
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	ORDER NO. 02
)	
Complainant,)	
)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
v.)	ORDER; AUTHORIZING
)	SETTLEMENT FILING
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,)	(By March 22, 2004)
)	
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	

- 1 **Proceeding:** Docket No. UG-031216 is a filing by Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to change certain rates and charges relating to the extension of natural gas service.
- 2 **Conference:** The Commission convened a prehearing conference in this docket at Olympia, Washington on February 20, 2004, before Administrative Law Judge C. Robert Wallis.
- 3 **Appearances.** Respondent is represented by Kirsten Dodge, attorney, Bellevue, Washington. Commission Staff is represented by Robert D. Cedarbaum, Assistant Attorney General, Olympia.
- 4 **Settlement in principle.** The parties advised the Commission at the conference that they have reached a settlement in principle, and proposed to finalize it and to present it to the Commission. The presiding officer authorized the parties to present the proposal.
- 5 **Schedule.** The parties agreed to file a completed settlement agreement, with the explanation and accompanying materials specified in WAC 480-07-740(2), no later than March 22, 2004. The Commission will review the proposal and, if further information is required, the Commission will seek it from the parties via bench request.

- 6 The Commission will determine whether a hearing on the proposal is necessary; if so, it will promptly advise the parties. If the Commission believes that the parties' package is sufficient, it will endeavor to complete its review promptly and enter an order expressing its decision.

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 24th day of February, 2004.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

C. ROBERT WALLIS
Administrative Law Judge

NOTICE TO PARTIES: Any objection to the provisions of this Order must be filed within ten (10) days after the date of mailing of this statement, pursuant to WAC 480-09-460(2). Absent such objections, this prehearing conference order will control further proceedings in this matter, subject to Commission review.