

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

Puget Sound Energy, Inc.,

Respondent.

DOCKET NO. UE-090704 and
UG-090705 (*consolidated*)

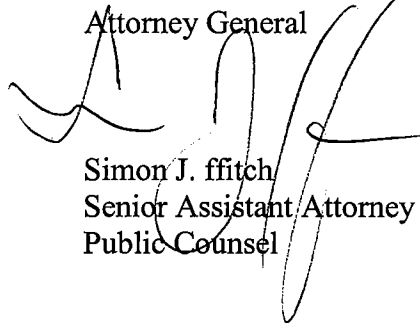
PUBLIC COUNSEL ANSWER
TO PUGET SOUND ENERGY,
INC.'s PETITION FOR
RECONSIDERATION

1. Pursuant to the Notice Allowing Answers to Petition for Reconsideration (Notice) dated April 12, 2010, the Public Counsel Section of the Washington State Attorney General's Office (Public Counsel) respectfully submits this answer in response to Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s (PSE) Petition for Reconsideration (Petition) filed April 8, 2010.
2. Public Counsel does not object to PSE's Petition for Reconsideration. The Petition requests that the Commission reconsider its final rate order, Order No. 11, in order to approve PSE's proposal to increase residential and gas low-income bill assistance. Reconsideration of Order 11 is sought because the Commission did not address the proposal for increased low-income assistance in its final order.
3. Public Counsel did not oppose PSE's proposed increase to low-income bill assistance in testimony or in briefing. The request is a reasonable one in that, during difficult economic downturn, it increases the resources available in the next program year to assist low income

customers to face the rate increase approved in Order 11.

4. DATED this 16th day of April, 2010.

ROBERT M. MCKENNA
Attorney General

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. J. Fitch', is written over the typed name and title of Simon J. Fitch.

Simon J. Fitch
Senior Assistant Attorney General
Public Counsel