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      BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
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                           COMMISSION
     In the Matter of:
 4
    WESTERN VILLAGE, LLC,
       Petitioner/Complainant,
 5
 6
                                   ) DOCKET NO. UE-051828
               vs.
                                  ) Volume I
    PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC,
                                 ) Pages 1 - 27
 7
 8
                   Respondent.
                                  )
 9
    THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND )
     TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,
10
        Petitioner/Complainant,
11
               vs.
                                  ) DOCKET NO. UE-051966
                                  ) Volume I
12
     PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,
                                  ) Pages 1 - 27
13
                  Respondent.
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               A prehearing conference in the above matter
16
     was held on February 9, 2006, at 1:30 p.m., at 1300
     South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest, Olympia,
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18
     Washington, before Administrative Law Judge KAREN
19
    CAILLE.
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               The parties were present as follows:
21
               PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC., by KIRSTIN S.
     DODGE, Attorney at Law, Perkins Coie, 10885 Northeast
22
     Fourth Street, Suite 700, Bellevue, Washington
     98004-5579; telephone, (425) 635-1407.
23
    Kathryn T. Wilson, CCR
24
25
   Court Reporter
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1	WESTERN VILLAGE, LLC, by WALTER H. OLSEN, JR., Attorney at Law, Olsen Law Firm, 604 West										
2	Meeker Street, Suite 101, Kent, Washington 98032; telephone, (253) 813-8111.										
3											
4	WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION, by ROBERT D. CEDARBAUM, Assistant Attorney General, 1400 South Evergreen Park Drive Southwest,										
5	Post Office Box 40128, Olympia, Washington 98504-0128; telephone, (360) 664-1188.										
6	PUBLIC COUNSEL, by SIMON J. FFITCH (via										
7	bridge line), Assistant Attorney General, 900 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2000, Seattle, Washington 98164-1012;										
8	telephone, (206) 389-2055.										
9	MANUFACTURED HOUSING COMMUNITIES OF WASHINGTON, by JOHN E. WOODRING, Attorney at Law, 2120										
10	State Avenue Northeast, Suite 201, Olympia, Washington 98506; telephone, (360) 754-7667.										
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- JUDGE CAILLE: Good afternoon. My name is
- 3 Karen Caille, and we are convened in a hearing room in
- 4 Olympia, Washington. It's approximately 1:30. Today
- 5 is February the 9th, 2006. We are here for a
- 6 prehearing conference in two matters, Docket No.
- 7 UE-051828, Western Village versus Puget Sound Energy,
- 8 and this is a formal complaint and petition for
- 9 declaratory order.
- 10 The other matter is Docket No. UE-051966,
- 11 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
- 12 versus Puget Sound Energy, and this matter is a
- 13 suspension of tariff revisions clarifying
- 14 responsibilities regarding the installation, ownership,
- 15 maintenance, and replacement of service lines to
- 16 non-residential customers, including service lines to
- 17 multifamily residential structures and service lines
- 18 within mobile home parks.
- 19 I would like to begin with appearances, and
- 20 what I will do is go around the room, and if you will
- 21 specify which docket you are here for or if you are
- 22 here for both, and why don't we start with you,
- 23 Mr. Cedarbaum.
- MR. CEDARBAUM: Thank you, Your Honor. My
- 25 name is Robert Cedarbaum. I'm an assistant attorney

- 1 general representing Commission staff in both
- 2 proceedings. Would you like my business address?
- JUDGE CAILLE: Yes, your address, phone
- 4 numbers, e-mail.
- 5 MR. CEDARBAUM: My business address is the
- 6 Heritage Plaza Building, 1400 South Evergreen Park
- 7 Drive Southwest, Olympia, Washington, 98504. My
- 8 direct-dial telephone number is area code (360)
- 9 664-1188. The fax number is (360) 588-5522, and my
- 10 e-mail is bcedarba@wutc.wa.gov.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Thank you. And I'm not
- 12 familiar with who you are, so would you please
- introduce yourself?
- 14 MR. OLSEN: My name is Walter Olsen, and I'm
- 15 the attorney for Western Village, LLC, d/b/a, Western
- 16 Village Estates, for Docket No. UE-051828, and may be
- 17 also appearing in the other docket number. I presume
- 18 that that was one of the purposes of today's hearing in
- 19 that regard.
- 20 I am from the Olsen Law Firm at 604 West
- 21 Meeker Street, Suite 101, Kent, Washington, 98032. My
- 22 phone number there is (253) 813-8111. My fax number is
- 23 (253) 813-8133, and my e-mail address is
- 24 walt@olsenlawfirm.com.
- 25 JUDGE CAILLE: Thank you very much, and I

- 1 want to remind everyone to please speak slowly for the
- 2 benefit of the court reporter. And you, sir?
- 3 MR. WOODRING: I'm John Woodring, and I'm
- 4 appearing today on behalf of the Manufactured Housing
- 5 Communities of Washington. We have petitioned for
- 6 intervention in the docket matter UE-051828 and
- 7 potentially in UE-051966.
- 8 My address is 2120 State Avenue Northeast,
- 9 Suite 201, Olympia, Washington, 98506. My telephone
- 10 number is (360) 754-7667. My fax number is (360)
- 11 754-0249, and my e-mail is
- 12 johnwoodring@woodringlaw.com.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Ms. Dodge?
- MS. DODGE: Kirstin Dodge for Puget Sound
- 15 Energy, Inc., in both dockets. My address is 10885
- 16 Northeast Fourth Street, Suite 700, Bellevue,
- 17 Washington, 98004. Telephone number is (425) 635-1407.
- 18 Fax is (425) 635-2400. My e-mail is
- 19 kdodge@perkinscoie.com.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Mr. ffitch?
- 21 MR. FFITCH: Thank you, Your Honor. Simon
- 22 ffitch, assistant attorney general with the Public
- 23 Counsel section, 900 Fourth Avenue, Suite 2000,
- 24 Seattle, Washington, 98164; phone number, (206)
- 25 389-2055; fax, (206) 389-2079; e-mail,

- 1 simonf@atg.wa.gov, appearing in Docket UE-051966.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Thank you, Mr. ffitch. Are
- 3 there any other appearances to be entered? Hearing
- 4 none, let the record reflect there are no other
- 5 appearances.
- 6 The next matter I would like to take up is
- 7 the petition to intervene. In Docket UE-051828, the
- 8 Manufactured Housing Communities of Washington has
- 9 petitioned to intervene. Is there any objection to my
- 10 granting this petition? Hearing none, then it is
- 11 granted.
- 12 Then my next question was going to be what
- 13 about the other docket, and maybe we will just put that
- 14 aside for a minute because I think a threshold question
- 15 we need to decide here is what the process is on the
- 16 complaint/declaratory petition for declaratory order.
- I have a couple of concerns, and one of them
- 18 is the standing of Complainant to bring the Complaint,
- 19 and maybe we could discuss that first. It's my
- 20 understanding that the underlying complaint was a --
- 21 maybe you can expound on it, Mr. Olsen.
- MR. OLSEN: I would be happy to. Again, Walt
- 23 Olsen for Western Village Estates, which is a
- 24 manufactured home community located in Oak Harbor,
- Washington.

- This is a community who is a customer of
- 2 Puget Sound Energy and has historically relied on PSE
- 3 to maintain, repair, and replace its infrastructure
- 4 located within the boundaries of Western Village
- 5 Estates, and that would include buried service,
- 6 electrical service, wire, and in essence, all hardware
- 7 necessary to provide electrical service to PSE's
- 8 individual customers who live at Western Village
- 9 Estates. Western Village Estates is a manufactured
- 10 home community in which my client owns the property on
- 11 which the residents place a manufactured home that is
- 12 owned by the resident.
- 13 Historically, PSE has maintained and repaired
- 14 the service wire located within the community without
- 15 question or without distinguishing between where the
- 16 service wire happened to be. Lately, as late as last
- 17 summer, a dispute arose between Western Village and
- 18 Puget Sound Energy regarding PSE's obligation to
- 19 maintain wire within the community, and specifically,
- 20 there was an outage by one of the residents of the
- 21 community that PSE had provided a repair for in the
- 22 past which became itself unworkable, and so there was
- 23 an outage there. We submitted an informal complaint,
- 24 and with the help of the Commission, we were able to
- 25 resolve that one incident at that time.

- 1 But in the midst of resolving that one
- 2 incident, this dispute has arisen, and in that regard,
- 3 we've received correspondence from PSE indicating that
- 4 it does not intend to do this again, so to speak, and
- 5 it does not intend to maintain the service wire that it
- 6 had been maintaining for all the years before the
- 7 incident that took place last summer.
- 8 So from our perspective, we do believe there
- 9 is an actual controversy between the parties as it
- 10 relates to PSE's obligation to maintain the service
- 11 wire as provided by the language or intent of PSE's
- 12 tariff.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Any response, Ms. Dodge?
- MS. DODGE: Yes. In some sense, they may not
- 15 have standing to go to a complaint or not, even though
- 16 they have standing in the suspended tariff, so I'm not
- 17 sure that it makes much difference. The way that I had
- 18 been viewing it was less a standing issue than a
- 19 necessary party issue. Is there anyone here for the
- 20 tenants? And with Mr. ffitch on the phone, maybe that
- 21 concern goes away. I'm not sure at the end of the day
- 22 that standing is going to keep anyone in or out, but do
- 23 we have everybody here that needs to be heard?
- 24 JUDGE CAILLE: What I'm really trying to get
- 25 to is how to combine the two of these in a way that

- 1 works, and Mr. ffitch, I'm not certain you entered an
- 2 appearance under the Western Village docket; did you?
- 3 MR. FFITCH: No, I did not, Your Honor. We
- 4 are initially at least in the process of evaluating our
- 5 level of participation in the docket. It does appear
- 6 to be an important issue for residents of multifamily
- 7 units in mobile home parks, so we have not made a final
- 8 decision about level of participation, but I would be
- 9 happy to enter an appearance in both dockets. That may
- 10 be the most efficient approach, and I would be
- 11 comfortable doing that.
- 12 JUDGE CAILLE: We will have you appearing in
- 13 Docket UE-051828 as well. Ms. Dodge, just to follow-up
- 14 on your necessary parties --
- MS. DODGE: I didn't mean that technically
- 16 legally in this form but more conceptually. It's
- 17 publically noticed that anyone who cares to appear can
- 18 comment or not.
- 19 JUDGE CAILLE: One way that we can combine
- 20 these two dockets and avoid the issue of standing is to
- 21 take it as the alternate proposal by Western Village,
- 22 and that is to take it as a declaratory order
- 23 proceeding and combine that with the tariff proceeding.
- 24 Do you see any advantages or disadvantages to that,
- 25 assuming that none of the necessary parties object to

- 1 proceeding in a declaratory order form?
- 2 MS. DODGE: The Complaint itself is for
- 3 declaratory relief. It's a going-forward issue. There
- 4 is no issue here of past relief or anything like that,
- 5 so in that sense, both proceedings are about the same
- 6 thing. What are the rules of the game and what are
- 7 they going to be going forward.
- 8 From an efficiency standpoint, the Company
- 9 would support consolidating the two because the same
- 10 facilities are at issue, the same tariff sheet, things
- 11 like that, but there is a complication in that we have
- 12 an issue around the burden of proof and how to proceed,
- 13 because in the complaint proceeding...
- 14 Well, the easiest one is the suspended
- 15 tariff. The current tariff is what it is, and it has
- 16 been that way for, I think, 30 years. It has already
- 17 been found to be fair, just, reasonable, and
- 18 sufficient, and the Company has proposed revisions
- 19 ordering revisions are suspended, and the Company has
- 20 the burden of showing that its proposed revisions meet
- 21 the legal standard, and the Company accepts that burden
- 22 and is fine with that, and we are prepared to submit
- 23 testimony and put our witnesses up for
- 24 cross-examination within the next couple of months on
- 25 these issues.

- 1 The thing is, the Complaint does seem to
- 2 raise the question whether the existing tariffs are
- 3 fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient because they are
- 4 arguing things that are inconsistent with the face of
- 5 the tariff language, so in that sense, we believe that
- 6 it's the Complainant's burden to show the existing
- 7 tariff is not fair, just, reasonable, or sufficient and
- 8 in particular, this issue, the tariff says the customer
- 9 must pay, and from the Company's perspective, the
- 10 question is, Do you view that as the mobile home park
- 11 owner or the tenants, and we are trying to clarify the
- 12 tariff revisions, that is, the park owner, because
- 13 arguably under the current tariff, the way that it's
- 14 written and various other definitions, "customer" means
- 15 the tenants, and what the park seems to be saying is
- 16 neither the park nor the tenant. So we would have to
- 17 take "customer" out of the existing tariff and really
- 18 reword the entire tariff differently than it is now.
- 19 We want to make sure the burdens are clear.
- 20 As far as how exactly to proceed procedurally, we are
- 21 happy to go forward first and submit testimony. We are
- 22 open to other discussion today as well.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Maybe I should go back to
- 24 Mr. Olsen, and then I'll hear from you, Mr. Cedarbaum,
- 25 and Mr. ffitch, I want to hear from you too eventually.

- 1 So Mr. Olsen?
- 2 MR. OLSEN: In one respect, I would disagree
- 3 with Ms. Dodge as it relates, at least from our
- 4 perspective, what we see the potential remedy being
- 5 from this administrative process. I wouldn't agree
- 6 that the claim for declaratory relief that we seek is
- 7 just forward-looking, and in my mind, I see this case
- 8 as very similar to a prior case I had before the
- 9 Commission involving the Camelot Square Mobile Home
- 10 Park and buried telecommunication wire, which in many
- 11 respects raised the same issues we are raising in our
- 12 formal complaint, that being the responsibility of the
- 13 parties to maintain and repair and provide trenching
- 14 and do the things that need to be done in order to
- 15 provide the residents with the utilities that each of
- 16 the providers are providing the residents.
- 17 In that case, after the same proceeding that
- 18 we are starting now, the orders which followed provided
- 19 for a certain limited retrospective remedy as it
- 20 relates to the actions taken by that utility provider.
- 21 In my mind, our formal complaint and declaratory relief
- 22 is very similar in that regard. In fact, when I wrote
- 23 it, I started with Camelot Square's formal complaint.
- 24 So I hope the remedies would be broader than what
- 25 Ms. Dodge has characterized them to be.

- 1 But in short, Western Village wishes to
- 2 resolve the issues regarding the repair and maintenance
- 3 of service wire and is also open to whatever procedure
- 4 it takes to accomplish that as the petition requests,
- 5 the rights and obligations of the parties both before
- 6 and after are declared.
- 7 JUDGE CAILLE: Mr. Olsen, do you have the
- 8 docket number for Camelot Square?
- 9 MR. OLSEN: I do.
- 10 JUDGE CAILLE: I'm familiar with the case but
- 11 I didn't bring it up with me and didn't think I would
- 12 need it. If you are having difficulty finding it, we
- 13 will probably take a break to discuss schedule, and I
- 14 can get it then.
- MR. OLSEN: It looks like a copy of the
- 16 petition I have with me doesn't have the docket number
- 17 on it.
- 18 JUDGE CAILLE: I will get that during the
- 19 break. Mr. Cedarbaum, did you want to weigh in on
- 20 this?
- 21 MR. CEDARBAUM: Just a couple of points.
- 22 Staff does see some benefit in consolidation of the two
- 23 dockets. The Commission's rule, which I think is
- 24 480-07-320, the standard is common issue of fact or
- 25 principles of law. It seems like we are in that area

- 1 that consolidation makes sense both in terms of that
- 2 standard and the administrative convenience of
- 3 processing the case. So Staff would support
- 4 consolidation if that's the Commission's preference.
- 5 With respect to burden of proof, I think the
- 6 Company and the other parties in this case are at the
- 7 stage more intimately involved and familiar with the
- 8 facts. I've read the Complaint and I've had some
- 9 discussions with Staff, but I have a lot more to learn
- 10 about background and what's going on in this case, but
- 11 I think that it's clear on the declaratory order
- 12 complaint, the burden of proof is on the party that
- 13 brought the petition. That's Western Village. And on
- 14 the tariff filing base, the burden of proof is on the
- 15 company who filed the tariff.
- 16 It's not clear to me in reading the pleadings
- 17 that Western Village is not making an argument as to
- 18 interpretation and application of the existing tariff,
- 19 not only perspectively but also retroactively. Again,
- 20 that's just from the face of reading the pleadings. I
- 21 need to learn more on that, but I'm not sure I would
- 22 eliminate that past period of time at this stage.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Mr. Woodring, I didn't mean to
- 24 bypass you. Would you like to speak on this issue?
- 25 MR. WOODRING: Yes, Your Honor. And keep in

- 1 mind I represent a trade association that has
- 2 approximately 550 manufactured housing communities in
- 3 Washington, and that's an estimate of about 30 percent
- 4 of the communities in the state, and a manufactured
- 5 housing community by definition under the mobile home
- 6 tenant act is where two or more lots where manufactured
- 7 homes are located. So this activity in a lot of those
- 8 communities; in fact, I own one a community serviced by
- 9 Puget Sound Energy, and I'm a member of MHCW, and I
- 10 would be impacted by this tariff proceeding and the
- 11 other action.
- 12 Those communities have a significant interest
- 13 in this matter, not only from interpretation of the
- 14 tariff prospectively but also retroactively, because
- 15 there may be communities out there where Puget Sound
- 16 Energy has not performed the repair activities, and
- 17 over the years, I haven't represented this association
- 18 and I represented parks where there has been this kind
- 19 of activity going on, they would be impacted by this
- 20 retroactively -- or the nature of repairs, whether they
- 21 conducted some repairs or not other repairs. So we
- 22 would submit that it would be appropriate to deal with
- 23 the tariff proceeding both in a retroactive and an
- 24 prospective manner.
- 25 JUDGE CAILLE: Do you have any objection to

- 1 the consolidation of these proceedings?
- 2 MR. WOODRING: I don't have any objection.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Mr. Olsen, I don't think I got
- 4 whether you objected to being consolidated.
- 5 MR. OLSEN: I have no objection.
- 6 JUDGE CAILLE: Mr. ffitch, please.
- 7 MR. FFITCH: Your Honor, thank you. I don't
- 8 really have anything to add to what's been said on
- 9 burden of proof. I don't have any objection to the
- 10 consolidation.
- 11 JUDGE CAILLE: Thank you. It would appear to
- 12 me that these matters should be consolidated, and my
- 13 only concern is about the burden of proof being
- 14 different in each of them, but perhaps we can take care
- of that in the way that the cases are presented.
- 16 It sounds to me like there really isn't a
- 17 standing issue that I was concerned about initially.
- 18 Having said that, is there anyone in the room --
- 19 Ms. Dodge, yes.
- 20 MS. DODGE: I think to the extent we are
- 21 talking about some park that may exist somewhere that
- 22 has a damages claim, depending on how this case comes
- 23 out, I don't think that these complainants or any of
- 24 the others have standing. We don't have to figure this
- 25 out at the prehearing conference, but there has been no

- 1 claim made that anyone was actually paid moneys or
- 2 anything else improper, and those would have to be
- 3 looked at individually, it seems to me.
- 4 JUDGE CAILLE: Do the parties feel there is a
- 5 need to brief that standing issue that you just brought
- 6 up, Ms. Dodge? I'm seeing no's.
- 7 So could you please just explain to me again
- 8 a little more slowly so the court reporter can get it
- 9 too and I can write it down too what your position is
- 10 on the standing issue?
- 11 MS. DODGE: I may want a chance to consider
- 12 this a little bit more. The whole standing issue is
- 13 new. We haven't been looking at this as a standing
- 14 issue. Standing is typically looked at pretty
- 15 liberally, especially in these proceedings, and the
- 16 Company certainly would not try to make the argument
- 17 that the manufactured housing association or that a
- 18 mobile home park wouldn't have some impact by how this
- 19 issue comes out, so that's not the concern.
- The idea that somehow at one particular
- 21 mobile home park has come forward with a specific
- 22 incident that has triggered a declaratory order
- 23 complaint, that is good enough for us to investigate
- 24 these issues, but what I'm hearing today for the first
- 25 time is that somehow this is some class-action type of

- 1 retroactive case, which brings up a whole lot of other
- 2 issues that I'm not prepared to address today, and I'm
- 3 not sure that we need to figure them out before we
- 4 actually get through case presentation, briefing and
- 5 everything else.
- 6 JUDGE CAILLE: Yes. It can be taken with the
- 7 case, in other words, if it does appear to arise as an
- 8 issue. But for purposes of today and where we are and
- 9 where we are proceeding, I'm going to conclude that
- 10 there isn't a typical standing issue. Everybody here
- 11 is affected, and I was approaching this from like harm
- 12 and zone of interest, that classic type of analysis.
- 13 So I will discuss this further in the prehearing
- 14 conference order.
- 15 Having said that, at this point,
- 16 Mr. Woodring, would you care to intervene in the other
- 17 docket as well?
- 18 MR. WOODRING: Yes, I would ask permission to
- 19 do that.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Is there any objection to
- 21 that? Then Mr. Woodring, the Manufactured Housing
- 22 Communities of Washington have been granted
- 23 intervention in Docket UE-051966 as well, and
- 24 Mr. Olsen, you were also a little on the fence.
- 25 MR. OLSEN: Western Village would also ask to

- 1 intervene in the other docket as well.
- 2 JUDGE CAILLE: Is there any objection to that
- 3 intervention? Then Western Village is granted
- 4 intervention in UE-051996 as well. That takes care of
- 5 our intervention. It would appear that these matters
- 6 should be consolidated. I will give it some more
- 7 thought and set forth a decision in the prehearing
- 8 conference order, but I really don't see any reason not
- 9 to. Are there any other motions at this point?
- 10 MR. CEDARBAUM: I'm not sure this goes in the
- 11 motion category, but if we are going to be having
- 12 prefiled testimony, it probably makes sense to have
- 13 formal discovery on that.
- 14 JUDGE CAILLE: That was going to be my next
- 15 question.
- MR. CEDARBAUM: I'll hold off on that then.
- 17 JUDGE CAILLE: I assume the parties will want
- 18 to invoke the discovery rule; is that correct?
- 19 MR. OLSEN: Yes on behalf of Western Village.
- MR. CEDARBAUM: Yes.
- MS. DODGE: Yes.
- JUDGE CAILLE: Mr. ffitch?
- MR. FFITCH: No objection.
- 24 JUDGE CAILLE: Then the discovery rules will
- 25 apply, and those are found at WAC 480-07-400 through

- 1 425, and generally, discovery, I don't get involved in
- 2 unless there is a problem, so if there is one, please
- 3 bring it to me immediately.
- 4 Do you believe that there needs to be a
- 5 discovery cutoff date? Maybe we should go off the
- 6 record and discuss that in conjunction with the
- 7 schedule, but before we go off the record, do you think
- 8 there is going to be the need for a protective order?
- 9 MS. DODGE: There probably would, Your Honor.
- 10 Depending on where discovery goes, we may have some
- 11 customer information and things like that.
- 12 JUDGE CAILLE: Then I'll have a standard
- 13 protective order prepared and signed by the Commission.
- 14 I think we are at the point of schedule. Have the
- 15 parties had an opportunity to discuss scheduling
- 16 amongst themselves?
- MR. OLSEN: No.
- 18 JUDGE CAILLE: Then let's go off the record.
- 19 (Recess.)
- JUDGE CAILLE: The parties have had an
- 21 off-record discussion amongst themselves and partly
- 22 with me about scheduling, and they have agreed to the
- 23 following schedule: In order to accommodate the
- 24 different burden of proofs in each of these
- 25 proceedings, there are going to be four rounds of

- 1 testimony.
- 2 On March 8th, the parties with the burden of
- 3 proof, there will be direct testimony filing by both
- 4 parties with the burden of proof, the Company on the
- 5 tariff revisions and Western Village on its complaint
- 6 proceeding. On April 19th, those parties will reply to
- 7 each other. On April 26th, the parties will get
- 8 together and hopefully engage in fruitful settlement
- 9 discussions.
- 10 On May 31st, Staff and Public Counsel will
- 11 file their responsive case to all the testimony filed
- 12 so far. On June 21st, the Company and Western Village
- 13 would file rebuttal on their burden of proof issue and
- 14 the rebuttal to Staff and Public Counsel prefiled
- 15 testimony.
- 16 Then we have scheduled hearings for July
- 17 19th, 20th, and 21st; opening briefs, August the 10th,
- 18 and simultaneous replies, August the 25th. The parties
- 19 have agreed that for the filing of the briefs, they
- 20 will e-mail copies of the briefs and then follow with
- 21 hard-copy service.
- I just thought of something. Typically, we
- 23 schedule a prehearing conference about a week before
- 24 the hearing in order to exchange cross-exhibits and
- 25 take care of any other procedural matters. I'm

- 1 wondering if we should go ahead and pencil in something
- 2 just in case we need that. We may not need to do that
- 3 depending on the number of exhibits.
- 4 MR. CEDARBAUM: Would that be a live
- 5 prehearing conference, because we have got into the
- 6 helpful practice of doing a lot of this just by e-mail,
- 7 just circulating.
- 8 JUDGE CAILLE: I'll consult with my
- 9 colleagues about that.
- MR. CEDARBAUM: What we've been doing in
- 11 hearings quite a bit is parties will submit to you and
- 12 exchange amongst each other our witness order,
- 13 hopefully we can agree to, our cross-examination
- 14 estimates, and a list of our proposed cross-examination
- 15 exhibits, and then that would be done a couple of days
- 16 before the hearing, and then we would also send hard
- 17 copies of the exhibits to counsel and their witnesses
- 18 for delivery the next day so they actually have them in
- 19 their hands, and we show up at the hearing the day
- 20 after that or something like that.
- 21 JUDGE CAILLE: That sounds acceptable to me,
- 22 especially since the commissioners are not going to be
- 23 sitting on this, we don't have to create exhibit books
- 24 for them. Let's dispense with that.
- 25 MS. DODGE: It would be good to have a date

- 1 certain probably the week before. It's nice to have
- 2 the cross-exhibits in time to look them over before the
- 3 hearing.
- 4 JUDGE CAILLE: Can we say cross-exhibits will
- 5 be due on July 12th?
- 6 MR. CEDARBAUM: That's fine to the extent
- 7 that we know them, but with a week in between that date
- 8 and the actual hearing is a pretty good chunk of time,
- 9 so there might be additional cross-exhibits. As long
- 10 as we can still have the opportunity to offer them and
- 11 circulate them as soon as possible, that's fine. I can
- 12 just say the practice I've been experiencing in cases,
- 13 including general rate cases, is that this
- 14 predistribution of materials can be just a couple of
- 15 days ahead of time of the hearing.
- 16 If the hearing is on July 19th, that's a
- 17 Wednesday, so by even on the 17th with actual receipt
- 18 of a hard copy on the 18th, and typically, the exhibits
- 19 are data request responses that everybody has seen, so
- 20 you know what they are, and you get the hard copy the
- 21 next day.
- JUDGE CAILLE: I just need to get them in an
- 23 exhibit list.
- MR. CEDARBAUM: Again, I'm thinking out loud
- 25 here. That may not be what everyone wants to do, but

- 1 it seems like a week ahead of time to do that is too
- 2 much.
- JUDGE CAILLE: I can live with Monday.
- 4 MS. DODGE: That's fine. We would rather get
- 5 them all at once.
- 6 JUDGE CAILLE: It's still understood that if
- 7 you discover something the night before and you have a
- 8 reasonable explanation for it, it will be considered.
- 9 MR. CEDARBAUM: Again, just to interject one
- 10 more time, typically, we've had that electronic
- 11 distribution of cross-estimates, witness lists, and
- 12 exhibits by two o'clock of the day they are distributed
- 13 so that people have that afternoon to get organized.
- JUDGE CAILLE: So, Mr. Cedarbaum, you are
- 15 saying on the 17th --
- 16 MR. CEDARBAUM: On the 17th at no later than
- 17 two o'clock, the parties will exchange to each other
- 18 their proposed witness order, their proposed
- 19 cross-examination time estimates, and then often times,
- 20 we receive grids from the ALJ to fill in for that to
- 21 happen, and also an electronic list of their
- 22 cross-examination exhibits per witness, and then they
- 23 will also by overnight delivery send out those exhibits
- 24 to counsel with sufficient copies for their witness as
- 25 well to receive the next day.

- 1 JUDGE CAILLE: I'm pretty sure we did that in
- 2 PacifiCorp, so I'm familiar with that process. I'm
- 3 amending the procedural schedule just to add that July
- 4 17th date for due date for the parties'
- 5 cross-examination exhibits, their witness order, their
- 6 cross times, and I will send out a letter prior to that
- 7 with more particulars.
- 8 Does anyone have anything to add to what I
- 9 just put into the record regarding the procedural
- 10 schedule?
- MR. OLSEN: No.
- MR. CEDARBAUM: The only thing I would add,
- 13 Your Honor, is that since this is an ALJ case, and
- 14 typically, then we would have petition for administrative
- 15 review and replies, I think in our off-record discussion,
- 16 we discussed the possibility that we may not need reply
- 17 briefs because we will have later opportunities, or later
- 18 on in the proceeding, we may find that it would be
- 19 agreeable to waive a proposed order, so there should be
- 20 some discussion to be flexible later on to accommodate
- 21 those concerns.
- 22 JUDGE CAILLE: I will mention that in the
- 23 prehearing conference as well.
- MR. CEDARBAUM: If you would like to, that's
- 25 fine. I just wanted to have that thought on the

- 1 record.
- 2 JUDGE CAILLE: It's on the record then, and
- 3 hopefully, the parties will remember that and remind me
- 4 about a possible waiver and the dispense of the reply
- 5 briefs. I believe the only other thing I need to
- 6 convey is we will need an original plus eight copies of
- 7 everything to our internal distribution, and that is
- 8 combining the two cases together.
- 9 I believe that is all I have today.
- 10 Everything else I will put in the address for mailings
- 11 and filings in the prehearing conference order, and I
- 12 just want to stress that any filings of substance, like
- 13 testimony, briefs, motions, and answers include an
- 14 electronic copy furnished either by e-mail attachment
- or by a diskette, and I will restate that in the
- 16 prehearing conference order as well. That is all I
- 17 have. Is there anything further?
- MS. DODGE: I have a question of
- 19 clarification. The Commission has the Web portal file
- 20 in now, but it was my understanding, at least the last
- 21 time I heard it discussed in a procedural rules workshop,
- 22 that it's actually not necessarily as convenient as
- 23 e-mail for actually a live proceeding, so are you
- 24 saying e-mail?
- 25 JUDGE CAILLE: Yes. I prefer e-mail until I

know more about the Web portal. Thank you everyone. (Prehearing conference adjourned at 3:00 p.m.)