

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Docket Nos. UE-111048 and UG-111049
Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s
2011 General Rate Case**

PUBLIC COUNSEL DATA REQUEST NO. 256

PUBLIC COUNSEL DATA REQUEST NO. 256:

Regarding page 24, lines 8-12 of Mr. De Boer's testimony, please explain, with specificity, how the CSA will increase "the incentive to maximize the value of customers' conservation-related revenues".

Response:

Absent the Conservation Savings Adjustment mechanisms proposed in this proceeding, to the extent that Puget Sound Energy, Inc. is required to recover its fixed costs through charges tied to energy sales, energy efficiency reduces its ability to recover its costs. To the extent that these costs are now reflected in customers' rates, these rates will now reflect the full cost of energy efficiency. It is reasonable to assume that customers facing the full cost of energy efficiency will increase their scrutiny of these expenditures to ensure that the associated revenues are being directed towards programs that provide them the most value. Simply put, when consumers pay more, they expect more.

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Docket Nos. UE-111048 and UG-111049
Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s
2011 General Rate Case**

PUBLIC COUNSEL DATA REQUEST NO. 489

PUBLIC COUNSEL DATA REQUEST NO. 489:

Re: Direct Testimony of Mr. DeBoer, Exhibit No. TAD-1T

At p. 25, lines 14-20, Mr. DeBoer provides data regarding the percentage of the residential electric and natural gas conservation budgets allocated to the low income energy efficiency program.

- a. Please provide workpapers for the calculations of the 13% (electric) and 10% (natural gas) figures provided in Mr. DeBoer's testimony. Please separately identify each source of funding for the program (e.g. EES budget, shareholder, REC proceeds).
- b. Please confirm that PSE's recently filed 2012-2013 Biennial Conservation Plan (BCP), filed in Docket No. UE-111881, includes a budget of \$5.3M for electric low income weatherization, or approximately 6.2% of the total budget of \$85M for residential electric programs. Please also confirm that with respect to natural gas, the BCP includes a budget of \$1.1M for low-income weatherization, or 8% of the total budget of \$13.7M for residential natural gas programs. If PSE anticipates that additional funds will be available for 2012-2013 for low-income weatherization, please identify and describe any such projected additional funding for either the electric or natural gas low-income weatherization program.

Response:

- a. Attached as Attachment A to Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s ("PSE") Response to Public Counsel Data Request No. 489, please find a copy of the workpaper requested in Public Counsel Data Request No. 489.
- b. The Biennial Conservation Plan ("BCP") filed in Docket No. UE-111881 includes a proposed biennial budget of \$5,374,000 for electric low income weatherization as agreed upon by members of the Conservation Resource Advisory Group ("CRAG"). The BCP filed in Docket No. UE-111881 includes a proposed biennial budget of \$1,121,000 for low-income weatherization that was also agreed upon by the CRAG.

The budgeted amounts in the BCP are PSE's best estimates of the anticipated funding for the biennium.

**ATTACHMENT A
TO PSE'S RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COUNSEL DATA NO. 489**

Line Number		<u>Electric Rider Budget</u>	<u>Gas Tracker Budget</u>
1	Low-Income Weatherization Budget	\$ 2,391,463	\$ 889,379
2	REC Low-Income Weatherization Funding	\$ 2,285,000	
3	PSE Shareholder Low-Income Weatherization Funding		\$ 300,000
4	Total Expected Expenditures on Low-Income Residential Programs	\$ 4,676,463 [1]+[2]	\$ 1,189,379 [1]+[3]
5			
6	Total Budget of Residential Programs	\$ 32,965,000	\$ 11,039,000
7	REC Low-Income Weatherization Funding	\$ 2,285,000 [2]	
8	PSE Shareholder Low-Income Weatherization Funding		\$ 300,000 [3]
9	Total Expected Expenditures on Residential Programs	\$ 35,250,000 [6]+[7]	\$ 11,339,000 [6]+[8]
10			
11	Percent of residential expenditures devoted to dedicated Low-Income programs	13% [4] / [9]	10% [4] / [9]

Source: 2011 Annual Conservation Plan (filed with WUTC on December 1, 2010); Exhibit 1, Budgets and Savings, Portfolio and Sector Budgets and Savings