

BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

COALITION OF EASTSIDE
NEIGHBORHOODS FOR SENSIBLE
ENERGY,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

Respondent.

DOCKET UE-171083

PUGET SOUND ENERGY'S ANSWER TO
FORMAL COMPLAINT

1 Puget Sound Energy ("PSE") answers the Formal Complaint of Coalition of
2 Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy ("CENSE"), dated October 25, 2017, as
3 follows:

4 **ANSWER**

5 1. Answering the first paragraph, PSE admits on information and belief that
6 CENSE has engaged a consultant. PSE has insufficient knowledge to admit or deny the
7 scope of any such engagement.

8 2. Answering the first sentence of the second paragraph, PSE denies the
9 allegations in the first sentence of the second paragraph. Answering the second sentence of
10 the second paragraph, PSE admits that it is in the final stages of permitting the Lake Hills-
11 Phantom Lake Transmission Line, but PSE denies the remaining allegations in the second
12 sentence of the second paragraph. Answering the third sentence of the second paragraph,
13 PSE admits that PSE staff has engaged with public officials regarding the infeasibility of a

PUGET SOUND ENERGY'S ANSWER TO
FORMAL COMPLAINT- 1

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1 “Distribution Automation solution” related to the Lake Hills-Phantom Lake Transmission
2 Line, but PSE denies the remaining allegation in the third sentence of the second paragraph.
3 PSE provided CENSE a link to an electrical reliability study performed by the city of
4 Bellevue’s consultant, Exponent. Further, PSE has provided a substantial amount of
5 additional information to CENSE pursuant to PSE’s Integrated Resource Plan proceeding,
6 in which CENSE is an active participant.

7 3. Answering the first sentence of the third paragraph, PSE has insufficient
8 knowledge to admit or deny the allegations in the first sentence of the third paragraph, and
9 therefore denies the same. The second sentence of the third paragraph contains relief
10 requested, to which no answer is required.

11 4. Answering the fourth and final paragraph, the fourth paragraph contains no
12 factual allegations to which an answer is required.

13 5. The remaining paragraphs following CENSE’s complaint contain no
14 allegations, but rather correspondence between CENSE and PSE, to which no answer is
15 required.

16 **AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES**

17 1. CENSE's Complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

18 2. PSE's acts and/or practices have fully complied with Washington law, this
19 Commission's rules and PSE's tariffs.

20 3. PSE has responded to CENSE’s consultant’s request for system data.

21 4. The matter is not ripe for Commission determination because PSE has not
22 requested cost recovery or a prudence determination regarding the Lake Hills-Phantom
23 Lake Transmission Line.

1 5. The subject matter is being, or will be, considered in another proceeding.

2 6. The applicant lacks standing to request the relief it seeks from the
3 Commission.

4 7. The subject matter is not required to be resolved in an adjudicative proceeding
5 or would be better addressed informally or in a different proceeding, specifically PSE's
6 Integrated Resource Plan proceeding, Docket U-160918.

7 8. Due to the broad scope of CENSE's request, the information requested
8 includes confidential information pursuant to WAC 480-07-160.

9 9. Data requests are not available in this proceeding because PSE has not agreed
10 to engage in informal discovery pursuant to WAC 480-07-400(1)(b).

11 10. Data requests are not available in this proceeding pursuant to WAC 480-07-
12 400(2)(b) because 1) this proceeding does not involve a change in the rate levels of a public
13 service company, 2) CENSE's complaint does not involve claims of discriminatory or
14 anticompetitive conduct, unjust or reasonable rates, or violations of provision in Title 80 or
15 81 RCW, and 3) the Commission has not determined that the needs of any case require PSE
16 to respond to CENSE's requests for information.

17 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

18 WHEREFORE, PSE prays for the following relief:

19 A. That CENSE's Complaint be dismissed.

20 B. For such other relief as the Commission deems just and appropriate.

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Perkins Coie LLP

By: 

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