

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Application of:

PUGET SOUND ENERGY

For a Certificate of Public Convenience and  
Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire in a  
Designated area of Lewis County

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DOCKET NO.

APPLICATION

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STATE OF WASH.  
UTIL. AND TRANSP.  
COMMISSION

Puget Sound Energy, Inc. ("PSE" or "Applicant") hereby makes application to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (the "Commission") to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to Operate a Gas Plant for Hire as provided in RCW 80.28.190.

In support of this application, PSE states as follows:

**DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT**

1. Puget Sound Energy, Inc. is the name under which Applicant's business is and will be conducted. PSE is a public service company furnishing electric and natural gas service within a 4500 square mile territory, principally in the Puget Sound region of western Washington, with a small territory in eastern Washington. As of August 31, 2003, PSE provided electric service to approximately 970,000 electric customers and

633,000 natural gas customers. PSE is subject to the regulatory authority of the Commission as to its rates, service, facilities and practices.

2. The address of Applicant's main office is 10885 N.E. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Bellevue, WA 98004-5515.

3. The addresses of branch offices operated by Applicant are set forth in the attached Exhibit A.

4. The names and addresses of principal officers of Applicant are set forth in the attached Exhibit B.

5. The names and addresses of the 10 common or preferred stockholders of Applicant owning the greatest number of shares with voting rights are set forth in the attached Exhibit C.

6. The most recent financial statements of PSE showing assets, liabilities and utility plant balances are set forth on the attached Exhibit D.

#### **THE AREAS FOR WHICH A CERTIFICATE IS BEING SOUGHT**

7. This is an application for an amendment of an existing certificate of public convenience and necessity already issued to Applicant.

8. No other utility currently operates a gas plant for hire in the State of Washington in the areas involved in this Application.

9. The area for which Applicant seeks authorization to serve in this Application is shown in the maps and legal description included in the attached Exhibit E to this Application. Exhibit E identifies the service area and the boundaries thereof proposed to be served under this application. Also included in Exhibit E is the general

location of the facilities discussed in the feasibility study submitted with this Application.

10. Attached as Exhibit F is a feasibility study relating to the areas sought to be served by Applicant which states the economic conditions upon which this Application is based, including the estimated cost of new plant required to exercise this certificate, anticipated revenues, expenses, and rate of return.

11. The proposed gas supply to be provided by Applicant is firm and interruptible requirement service under current gas supply agreements.

12. Applicant is familiar with all the rules and regulations of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission regarding the operation of a gas plant for hire.

13. Applicant is not submitting herewith its proposed tariff or tariffs covering the service to be offered in the area of areas involved in this application. Such service will be supplied under existing tariffs on file with the Commission.

#### **THE CERTIFICATION PROCESS**

14. RCW 80.28.190 outlines the process for a natural gas company's application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity. RCW 80.28.190 states, in relevant part, as follows:

No gas company shall, after January 1, 1956, operate in this state any gas plant for hire without first having obtained from the Commission under the provision of this chapter a certificate declaring that the public convenience and necessity requires or will require such operation and setting forth the area or areas within which service is to be rendered ....

RCW 80.28.190

**THERE IS NO EXISTING CERTIFICATED SUPPLIER**

15. There is not, as of this application date, an existing company with a certificate to serve the proposed areas with natural gas.

**PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY REQUIRE THAT CERTIFICATE BE  
ISSUED TO PSE**

16. It is in the public interest to grant PSE a certificate of public convenience and necessity to provide natural gas service in the proposed area shown on Exhibit E. Exhibit G includes a copy of a service agreement and an application for service from a city. This entity has stated their intent to take natural gas service from PSE.

WHEREFORE, the undersigned Applicant Company respectfully requests that the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission issue an order in the form attached hereto as Exhibit H granting to such an Applicant a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity as provided in RCW 80.28.190.

DATED this 3rdth day of October, 2003.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

By  \_\_\_\_\_

Karl R. Karzmar

Director, Regulatory Relations