

Puget Sound Energy P.O. Box 97034 Bellevue, WA 98009-9734 pse.com

August 14, 2023

## Filed Via Web Portal

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Amanda Maxwell, Executive Director and Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 621 Woodland Square Loop SE Lacey, WA 98503

**RE:** Advice No. 2023-31

**Puget Sound Energy's Electric Tariff Revision** 

Dear Executive Director Maxwell:

Pursuant to RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-101 and -105, please find enclosed for filing the following proposed revisions to the WN U-60, tariff for electric service of Puget Sound Energy ("PSE" or the "Company"):

2 <sup>nd</sup> Revision	Sheet No. 134	Community Solar Project Services
2 <sup>nd</sup> Revision	Sheet No. 134-B	Community Solar Project Services (Continued)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Revision	Sheet No. 134-D	Community Solar Project Services (Continued)

The primary purposes of this filing are to update optional Schedule 134 Community Solar Project Services to: 1) expand funding sources for offsetting income-eligible shares; 2) revise the definition of Income Eligible to expand access; 3) increase the number of no-cost shares income eligible customers can sign up for; and 4) update the source methodology for the Community Solar Energy Credit.

As provided for in RCW 80.28.370(3), PSE established its electric Schedule 134 to allow Customers who face barriers to rooftop solar with the opportunity to share in the costs and benefits of new solar projects, beginning on November 1, 2021. Given the continued interest in this service, PSE plans to increase its expectation of deploying a total of 25MW to deploying a total of 50MW by end of 2025, in accordance with Final Order 08 Approving CEIP Subject to Conditions in Docket UE-210795.

PSE is proposing to expand available funding sources for the no-cost income-eligible shares under Schedule 134 to include electric Schedule 141CEI as well as other state funding. This will

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enable the company to offer more no-cost shares to income-eligible customers, beginning with 3,050 new shares from two ground-mounted solar projects in Kittitas County. Expanding the funding sources will allow administration of the service to act more quickly when new funds become available, and shifts dedicated income-eligible shares from a minimum of 20% to a minimum of 30%.

This filing includes a proposed tariff revision that broadens the definition of Income-Eligible Option Criteria from household incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level ("FPL"), adjusted for household size, to household incomes of 200% of FPL or 80% area median income. This proposed tariff change will align the income-eligible definition with that used in other PSE offers (for example, the current Schedule 129 Low Income Program, the pending Schedule 327 Bill Discount Rate, and the low income weatherization program under Schedule 129). The revised definition allows for new Schedule 134 adoption in higher-income counties, and opens potential participation to 150,000 additional income-eligible customers. Furthermore, this tariff filing increases the number of no-cost shares available for income-eligible households from one share to two, which provides more Schedule 134 benefits to income-eligible customers.

Exhibit A supporting this filing identifies the source of the proposed Community Solar Energy Credit of \$0.067130/kWh, which is an increase in value from the existing \$0.044883/kWh. This proposed change aligns the Community Solar Energy Credit with the value of distributed energy resources solar within PSE's 2023 Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP") Progress Report that was filed with the Commission on March 31, 2023. PSE had been sharing its analyses and findings throughout the compilation of the report with interested parties, which include the Commission staff among other interested groups. PSE will update the Schedule 134 Community Solar Energy Credit in the future be alighted with the IRP filed with the Commission.

The tariff sheets described herein reflect an issue date of August 14, 2023, and effective date of October 1, 2023. Posting of proposed tariff changes, as required by law and the Commission's rules and regulations, is being completed through web, telephone and mail access in accordance with WAC 480-100-193.

Please contact Veronica Martin at <u>veronica.martin@pse.com</u> for additional information about this filing. If you have any other questions, please contact me at (425) 462-3946.

Sincerely,

/s/ Birud D. Jhaveri

Birud D. Jhaveri Director, Regulatory Affairs Puget Sound Energy PO Box 97034, BEL10W Bellevue, WA 98009-9734 425-462-3946 Birud.Jhaveri@pse.com Amanda Maxwell, Executive Director and Secretary August 14, 2023 Page 3 of 3

ce: Lisa Gafken, Public Counsel Sheree Carson, Perkins Coie

Attachments: Electric Tariff Sheets (listed above)

Exhibit A