

November 3, 2022

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

**Re: Puget Sound Energy 2022 General Rate Case
Dockets UE-220066/UG-220067/UG-210918**

Dear Ms. Maxwell:

This rebuttal letter is sent on behalf of Puget Sound Energy (“PSE”) and responds to the ex parte email communication of Ms. Cindy Kisska, dated October 28, 2022, which appears to have been sent directly to the Commissioners. The email correspondence was later posted on the Commission’s website on October 31, 2022. PSE offers the following rebuttal statement to this most recent ex parte communication.¹

Ms. Kisska’s comments are improper ex parte communications that should be disregarded. They were improperly sent directly to the Commissioners, who are the decision-makers in this case—not to Public Counsel or to the Consumer Protection Division of the Commission. They were not sent to any party in the case, allowing Ms. Kisska to have her views considered by the Commissioners without the knowledge of parties to the case or an opportunity for response. In her improper ex parte communication, Ms. Kisska makes false claims of criminal activity by PSE while providing no facts to support her fallacious claims.

Moreover, Ms. Kisska’s comments are untimely. Public Counsel submitted the Public Comment Exhibit on October 17, 2022, which marks the deadline for comments from the public to be accepted. At that time Ms. Kisska had already submitted two written comment letters that are included in the Public Comment Exhibit and appeared at the Public Comment Hearing. The

¹ This email appears to be sent in support of CENSE’s October 12, 2022 improper ex parte email with Administrative Law Judge Michael Howard in the above referenced dockets.

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Commission should not accept Ms. Kisska's October 28 ex parte comment, which was tardy, duplicative, and without any foundation.

Based on the "Subject" line on Ms. Kisska's October 28, 2022 email/ex parte communication to the Commissioners, it appears this comment may have been intended to be a "rebuttal statement" submitted in response to the Commission's Notice of Potential Ex Parte Communication (Third Ex Parte Communication) issued by the Commission on October 19, 2022. However, such a rebuttal statement by Ms. Kisska is improper. The Commission's Notice regarding the Third Ex Parte Communication provided that "any *party* in this docket may file a written rebuttal statement concerning the matters raised by CENSE's email." Ms. Kisska is not a party in this docket and had no right to submit an ex parte rebuttal statement supporting Richard Lauckhart's improper ex parte communication with the ALJ.

For the reasons set forth above, PSE respectfully requests the Commission disregard the untimely, duplicative, and improper ex parte email communication of Ms. Kisska dated October 28, 2022.

Very truly yours,



Sheree S. Carson

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Enclosures

cc: All Parties