

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-240004 &
UG-240005 (*Consolidated*)

OFFER OF PUBLIC COMMENT
EXHIBIT NO. BR-1

1. The Washington State Attorney General’s Office, Public Counsel Unit (Public Counsel) hereby offers the Public Comment Exhibit as Bench Response Number 1 (Exh. BR-1) for admission into the record of the proceeding.
2. Public Comment Exhibit No. BR-1. This exhibit consists of letters, e-mails, phone calls, and other written materials submitted by the public to provide comment on the Puget Sound Energy (PSE or the Company) General Rate Case (GRC) in the consolidated Dockets UE-240004 and UG-240005. These letters, attachments, and other materials were submitted to the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC or Commission) and to Public Counsel during the proceeding and through the submission of this exhibit are submitted into the record for contemplation.
3. The Commission received several public comments via e-mail or other internet methods. Using these methods, consumers can submit comments online and select if they are in favor, opposed, or undecided. When the UTC receives comments, they are recorded into a Matrix.¹ Additionally, the Commission Consumer Protection and Communications Staff at times receive comments either by phone or mail. When consumers call the UTC for public comment, the

¹ See generally, UTC Pub Comment Matrix, Attach. 1.

Communication Staff interpret and provide summations of these interactions and document them into the Matrix. When a physical comment letter is received, these are noted in the Matrix.²

4. In some instances the Commission and Public Counsel received comments from the same individual, or an individual submitted more than one comment throughout the course of this proceeding.³ Public Counsel cannot verify with certainty every individual that submitted a duplicative comment. For this reason, we preserved the Commission's Matrix tally of the comments and try to remove the duplicative or potentially duplicative comments from Public Counsel's count detailed below.

5. Public Counsel received forty-five comments in total, which are grouped together in zip file and submitted with this filing. For transparency and completeness, Public Counsel submits any and all comments received but removed duplicate comments from the count below.

6. The submitted material has been counted as follows:

a. Comments received by Commission

Opposing the rate increase	302
Supporting the rate increase	1
Undecided	8

b. Comments received by Public Counsel

Opposing the rate increase	6
Undecided	3
Duplicate comments	36

7. Public Counsel tallies a total of nine (9) unique non-duplicative comments, of these comments six (6) were opposed, and three (3) comments were undecided on the Company's

² Comments can sometimes be seen in the Matrix, but if one is unavailable it is provided as an attachment to this filing. *See*, UTC Pub Comment, Attach. 2 (Combined mailed comments).

³ Public Counsel received several duplicative, or potentially duplicative comments from individuals and that is noted in the *Offer of Public Comment Workpaper, PCU Tally*.

request. The Commission received a total of three hundred and eleven (311) comments, with three hundred and two (302) opposing, one (1) in favor, and eight (8) undecided on the Company's request. In total, both the Commission and Public Counsel received three hundred and twenty (320) non-duplicative comments; three hundred and eight (308) oppose, eleven (11) are undecided, and one (1) supports PSE's request.

DATED this 12th day of November, 2024.

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