

## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PUGET SOUND ENERGY CUSTOMERS ABOUT PROPOSED CHANGES IN NATURAL GAS RATES

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) recently filed requests with the state Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) to adjust natural gas rates. The following proposals would increase rates for natural gas customers by an overall average 8.92 percent, effective Nov. 1, 2020.

**Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA):** PSE has requested to increase natural gas bills under the purchased gas adjustment rate-setting mechanism, which allows utilities to adjust rates, up or down, to reflect fluctuations in the price of natural gas in the wholesale market. The PGA has two components – one is a projection of the average cost of natural gas supplies over the next year, the other is a true-up of the difference between prior years' projected costs and the actual costs of the supplies. For the true-up component, the actual wholesale price of natural gas supplies that PSE purchased for customers increased in the past year. Projected natural gas costs, which included a combination of short- and longer-term wholesale purchases, are higher than the prices projected a year ago.

The net effect of the two components of the PGA would increase rates by an overall average of 7.69 percent. The cost of natural gas is shown on your monthly PSE bill as "Gas Cost". PSE is not allowed to profit on the natural gas it purchases for customers.

**Cost Recovery Mechanism for Pipeline Replacement (CRM):** PSE has requested to increase natural gas rates by an overall average 1.23 percent, to recover costs from Nov. 1, 2019 through Oct. 31, 2020, for the replacement of aging natural gas pipes to ensure continued, safe and dependable service, as allowed by the CRM. The CRM rates are shown on your monthly PSE bill as "Other Natural Gas Charges & Credits".

Combined, the proposed changes for residential, commercial and industrial customers with natural gas services are:

### Effects on Residential Customers

The monthly bill effect of the rate changes for the typical residential natural gas customer using 64 therms per month is shown in this chart. Individual customers will see a greater or lesser increase than what is shown, depending on the amount of usage. All natural gas customers are billed monthly.

NATURAL GAS SERVICE	Current Bill	Bill Effective Nov. 1, 2020
Basic Charge	\$11.52	\$11.52
Therm charge for all therms	\$53.46	\$58.97
Total bill at 64 therms per month	\$64.98	\$70.49

### Summary of Requested Rate Changes

NATURAL GAS SCHEDULE Type of Service	Current Average Rate per Therm	Proposed Average Rate per Therm	Percent Change
Residential—Schedules 23, 53	\$1.01307	\$1.09922	8.50 increase
Commercial & Industrial—Schedule 31	\$0.87987	\$0.96861	10.09 increase
Large Volume—Schedule 41	\$0.59240	\$0.66060	11.51 increase
Interruptible—Schedule 85	\$0.43018	\$0.48857	13.57 increase
Limited Interruptible—Schedule 86	\$0.53349	\$0.61166	14.65 increase
Non-exclusive Interruptible—Schedule 87	\$0.37216	\$0.44156	18.65 increase
Commercial & Industrial Transportation—Schedule 31T	\$0.70892	\$0.72233	1.89 increase
Large Volume Transportation—Schedule 41T	\$0.21198	\$0.21737	2.54 increase
Interruptible Transportation—Schedule 85T	\$0.10554	\$0.10840	2.71 increase
Limited Interruptible Transportation—Schedule 86T	\$0.19511	\$0.20088	2.96 increase
Non-exclusive Interruptible Transportation—Schedule 87T	\$0.04650	\$0.04812	3.48 increase
Gas Lighting—Schedule 16	\$0.98812	\$1.07427	8.72 increase
Special Contracts	\$0.05094	\$0.05012	1.61 decrease
Rentals*—Schedules 71, 72	\$14.77	\$14.77	0.00 increase

Note: The figures above represent averages by rate schedule including the basic charge. Natural gas transportation customers have rates that are significantly less than the average rates for other schedules because, in part, these customers receive only delivery or transportation services.

\*This is an average rate per unit

### Public Comment

The UTC accepts comments on PSE's requested rate changes, online at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/comment>; email [comments@utc.wa.gov](mailto:comments@utc.wa.gov); phone 1-888-333-9882; or in writing to P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA, 98504-7250. Please include your name, mailing address, the name of the company (PSE), and a description of the filing. If you have questions about the UTC's process, please contact the UTC using one of the above methods. The UTC provides reasonable accommodation to participants with disabilities; for accommodations, please email [human\\_resources@utc.wa.gov](mailto:human_resources@utc.wa.gov) or call 1-360-664-1132.

The public is represented by the Public Counsel Section of the Washington Attorney General's office and can be reached by writing to the Washington Office of the Attorney General, 800 5th Avenue, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA 98104-3188, or by emailing [utility@atg.wa.gov](mailto:utility@atg.wa.gov).

To contact PSE about these proposals: email [customercare@pse.com](mailto:customercare@pse.com); call 1-888-225-5773 (TTY: 1-800-962-9498); or write to Puget Sound Energy, ATTN: Customer Care, P.O. Box 97034, Bellevue, WA 98009-9734.

