

STATE OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W., P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160 • www.utc.wa.gov

November 14, 2013

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS (Comments due Tuesday, December 10, 2013, by 5:00 p.m.) AND NOTICE OF WORKSHOP

(To be held Monday, December 16, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.)

RE: Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Puget Sound Energy, Inc., Docket UG-131589

TO INTERESTED PERSONS:

On August 28, 2013, Puget Sound Energy, Inc., (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-2, Natural Gas Service, designating a new Schedule No. 54, *Optional Gas Compression Service*. In this filing, PSE proposes an optional service to install gas compression facilities for eligible, non-residential natural gas customers on the customer's premises to enable fueling of natural gas vehicles (NGVs) with compressed natural gas.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

On October 30, 2013, the Commission entered a complaint and order suspending PSE's tariff filing. Prior to initiating an adjudicative proceeding to investigate the tariff, the Commission seeks comment on, and will conduct a workshop to explore procedural and policy issues arising from PSE's filing. Stakeholders are encouraged to submit written comments with the Commission on the issues identified below:

1. What are the benefits to Washington State of widespread availability of compressed natural gas services for transportation?

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2. What are the benefits to utility ratepayers if the Commission approves a utility tariff for gas compression service, and if so, what are those ratepayer benefits?

- 3. What are the risks to ratepayers, if any?
- 4. Is the existing gas compression market potentially competitive? If so, how is the market benefited or harmed if a regulated utility provides service through its tariff?
- 5. What would be the advantages or disadvantages to the market if a utility provides gas compression service as an unregulated subsidiary buying its gas from its regulated operation via an affiliate transaction?
- 6. What constraints exist in developing NGV infrastructure both nationwide and in Washington?
- 7. What are the appropriate private sector, utility and commission roles in fostering the economic development and the expansion of the necessary infrastructure?
- 8. Describe the process the commission should adopt to resolve the suspension of PSE's proposed tariff for gas compression service in UG-131589?
 - a. Open meeting;
 - b. Adjudicative proceeding, the options being:
 - i. Full adjudication, with pre-filed direct, responsive, and rebuttal testimony; discovery; oral hearing with cross-examination, and written briefs;
 - ii. Adjudication based on stipulated written record, with a one-day hearing to ask question of witnesses and counsel, and written briefs;
 - iii. Adjudication based on written record only, whether stipulated or not, and written briefs; or
 - iv. Some middle ground between a "full adjudication" and a hearing based on a stipulated record.
 - c. Other (please describe).

Written comments must be filed with the Commission no later than **5:00 p.m.**, **Tuesday**, **December 10, 2013.** The Commission requests that comments be provided in electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate quotations from the comments. Comments should be in .pdf Adobe Acrobat or in Word 97 or later version. Comments may be submitted via the Commission's Web portal at www.utc.wa.gov/e-filing or by e-mail to the Commission's Records Center at records@utc.wa.gov. Alternatively, comments may be submitted by mailing or delivering an electronic copy to the Commission's Records Center on a flash drive, compact disk, or 3 ½ inch, IBM-formatted, high density disk. Comment submissions should include:

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- The docket number of this proceeding (UG-131589).
- The commenting party's name.
- The title and date of the comment or comments.

Comments delivered by mail or courier should be addressed to: Steven V. King, Executive Director and Secretary, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, P.O. Box 47250, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, WA 98504-7250. The Commission will post on its website all comments that are provided in electronic format. The website is located at www.utc.wa.gov.

COMMISSION WORKSHOP

The Commission will discuss these issues and will allow time for interested persons and stakeholders to provide additional feedback on the issues listed above at a workshop scheduled for **Monday, December 16, 2013, beginning at 9:30 a.m.** at the Commission's headquarters, Room 206, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.

The Commission prefers that interested persons participate in person and share ideas in a workshop setting, but if this imposes a hardship, interested persons may participate in the workshop via the Commission's teleconference bridge at (360) 664-3846.

If you have questions regarding this workshop, you may contact David Gomez, by email at dgomez@utc.wa.gov or by calling (360) 664-1240.

STEVEN V. KING Executive Director and Secretary