Service Date: March 1, 2024



## STATE OF WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. • Lacey, Washington 98503

P.O. Box 47250 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

(360) 664-1160 • TTY 1-800-833-6384 or 711

March 1, 2024

NOTICE OF BENCH REQUEST (Due by Monday, March 11, 2024, at 5 p.m.)

RE: Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Puget Sound Energy, Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918 (Consolidated)

## **BENCH REQUEST NO. 12:**

TO PUGET SOUND ENERGY (PSE or Company):

In Dec. 2022, the Legislature appropriated \$100 million for public and private water, sewer, garbage, electric and natural gas utilities arrearages. This funding was used by utilities to reduce residential customer arrearages accrued between March 1, 2020, and Dec. 31, 2021<sup>1</sup>. Approximately \$26 million of these funds were allocated to PSE. PSE applied these amounts to customer accounts to alleviate rising arrearages, but significant arrearages remain.

Please provide the following information concerning the appropriation of these funds in Dec. 2022, as well as any <u>currently outstanding</u> residential customer arrearages accrued during the period of March 1, 2020, through Dec. 31, 2021?

If PSE cannot determine this information, please explain why, and provide estimated data to the best of your knowledge.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>Utility-Moratorium - Washington State Department of Commerce</u>

- a. Total number of residential customers that received any portion of the appropriated funds,
- b. Total dollar amounts of appropriated funds provided to residential customers.
- c. Total number of <u>active residential customers</u> with arrearage amounts greater than \$1 that accrued during the period March 1, 2020, through Dec. 31, 2021,
- d. Total dollar amount of <u>active residential customer</u> arrearages from the period March 1, 2020, through Dec. 31, 2021,
- e. Total cumulative arrearage amounts from the period March 1, 2020, through Dec. 31, 2021 that the Company has deemed "uncollectable" or that have been written off.

Please respond to this Bench Request no later than Monday, March 11, 2024, by 5 p.m., by electronic filing with the Commission's Records Center. Please provide courtesy email copies to all parties and the presiding administrative law judge. If you have any questions concerning these requests, please contact Administrative Law Judge Michael Howard at 360-664-1139 or via email at <a href="michael.howard@utc.wa.gov">michael.howard@utc.wa.gov</a>.

/s/ Michael Howard MICHAEL HOWARD Administrative Law Judge

cc: All Parties