

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)	DOCKET NO. PG-041209
	)	ORDER NO. 01
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
	)	ORDER
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,	)	
	)	
Respondent.	)	
.....	)	

1 **NATURE OF PROCEEDING.** Docket No. PG-041209 involves a Commission complaint against Puget Sound Energy alleging a violation of rules and laws relating to pipeline safety.

2 **CONFERENCE.** The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) convened a prehearing conference in this docket at Olympia, Washington on June 27, 2005, before Administrative Law Judge C. Robert Wallis.<sup>1</sup>

3 **APPEARANCES.** Christopher Swanson, Assistant Attorney General, Olympia, Washington, represents the Commission’s regulatory staff (“Commission Staff” or “Staff”).<sup>2</sup> Sheree Strom Carson, attorney, Bellevue, represents Puget Sound Energy, the respondent.

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<sup>1</sup> Judge Wallis substituted for Administrative Law Judge Dennis Moss, who is the ALJ assigned to the docket and who was unavailable to preside at the conference.

<sup>2</sup> In formal proceedings, such as this case, the Commission’s regulatory staff functions as an independent party with the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as any other party to the proceeding. There is an “*ex parte* wall” separating the Commissioners, the presiding

Contact information provided at the conference for the parties' representatives is attached as Appendix A to this order.

4 **PETITIONS FOR INTERVENTION.** No person or organization chose to seek intervention into this proceeding.

5 **PROTECTIVE ORDER.** The parties do not believe that a protective order will be necessary, but reserve the opportunity to request one if discovery requests indicate that such an order would be needed as specified in the Commission's rules.

6 **DISCOVERY.** The parties asked that the discovery rules be invoked in this docket, pursuant to WAC 480-07-400. The matter is one that qualifies for discovery, and the rules are invoked.

7 **PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE.** The parties agreed on a proposed procedural schedule. The Commission adopts the proposed schedule, as follows:

Discovery begins	July 1 (all dates are 2005)
Deadline for filing stipulated facts	August 31
Settlement conference convened	Week of September 12
Motions for summary determination	September 30
Answers to motions	October 21
Replies to answers	November 4

8 The parties agreed that they anticipated no need for an oral presentation, but indicated that they would seek a change in schedule to provide for one of circumstances change and their views change accordingly.

9 The parties also indicated that they would waive an initial order, allowing the Commissioners to determine the result on the written record the parties will provide.

10 **DOCUMENT PREPARATION AND FILING REQUIREMENTS.** Parties must file with the Commission an original plus seven (7) copies of all pleadings, motions, briefs, and other prefiled materials. Paper copies of these materials are required to conform to the format and publication guidelines set forth in WAC 480-07-395 and 480-07-460, and must be three-hole punched with *oversized* holes to allow easy handling. The Commission may require a party to refile any document that fails to conform to these standards.

11 All filings must be mailed to the Commission Secretary, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, P.O. Box 47250, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W. Olympia, Washington 98504-7250, or delivered by hand to the Commission Secretary at the Commission's Records Center at the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive, S.W., Olympia, Washington, 98504. Both the post office box and street address are required to expedite deliveries by the U.S. Postal Service.

12 An electronic copy of all filings must be provided by e-mail delivery to <[records@wutc.wa.gov](mailto:records@wutc.wa.gov)>. Alternatively, Parties may furnish an electronic copy by delivering with each filing a 3.5-inch IBM-formatted high-density diskette including the filed document(s). The Commission prefers that parties furnish electronic copies in .pdf (Adobe Acrobat) format, supplemented by a separate file

in MS Word 6.0 (or later), or WordPerfect 5.1 (or later) format. Parties are required to organize and identify electronic files as specified in WAC 480-07-140(5).

- 13 **ELECTRONIC FILING.** Parties may only file documents electronically with the Commission in this proceeding with the permission of the administrative law judge. Under WAC 480-07-145(6), electronic filing of documents provides a one-day extension of the paper-filing requirement. If, at any time during this proceeding, parties are authorized to file documents with the Commission electronically under WAC 480-07-145(6), Parties must submit the document to [records@wutc.wa.gov](mailto:records@wutc.wa.gov), and file an original, plus seven (7) copies, of the document with the Commission by the following business day.
- 14 **ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION.** The Commission supports the informal settlement of matters before it. Parties are encouraged to consider means of resolving disputes informally. The Commission does have limited ability to provide dispute resolution services; if you wish to explore those services, please call the Director, Administrative Law Division, at 360-664-1142.
- 15 **NOTICE TO PARTIES: Any objection to the provisions of this Order must be filed within ten (10) days after the service date of this Order, pursuant to WAC 480-07-430 and WAC 480-07-810. Absent such objection, this Order will control further proceedings in this matter, subject to Commission review.**

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 28th day of June, 2005.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

C. ROBERT WALLIS  
Administrative Law Judge

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**APPENDIX A**

**PARTIES' REPRESENTATIVES  
DOCKET NO. PG-041209**

<b>PARTY</b>	<b>REPRESENTATIVE</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>FACSIMILE</b>	<b>E-MAIL</b>
<b>Commission Staff</b>	Christopher Swanson Assistant Attorney General 1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504-0128	(360) 664-1220	(360) 586-5522	<a href="mailto:cswanson@wutc.wa.gov">cswanson@wutc.wa.gov</a>
<b>Puget Sound Energy</b>	Sheree Strom Carson Perkins Coie LLP 10885 NE 4 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 700 Bellevue, WA 98004-5579	(425) 635-1400	(425) 635-2400	<a href="mailto:scarson@perkinscoie.com">scarson@perkinscoie.com</a>