BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,) DOCKET NO. UE-010046
Complainant,) (filed under Docket No.) UE-960696)
<u>F</u> ,)
V.) COMPLAINT AND ORDER
) SUSPENDING TARIFF FILING
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,)
)
Respondent.)
)

On December 29, 2000, Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (successor to Puget Sound Power & Light Co.), refiled with the Commission its existing Schedule 48 tariff, with some revisions. This was done in compliance with the Commission's Order Approving Schedule 48 With Conditions (Schedule 48 Order) in Docket No. UE-960696 dated October 31, 1996. Pursuant to WAC 480-09-340(2), the Commission assigns a new docket number, UE-010046.

The Schedule 48 Order required Puget Sound Energy, Inc. to refile its Schedule 48 tariff with updated supporting data within 60 days of notice from the Commission, but no later than January 1, 2001. That refiling requirement was intended to provide the Commission with an opportunity to review Schedule 48. The Schedule 48 Order stated, at page 6: "The Commission may approve the terms of or revisions to Schedule 48 or may, after hearing, issue an order terminating or revising Schedule 48."

Pursuant to the referenced terms of the Schedule 48 order and pursuant to its authority under RCW 80.04.130 and RCW 80.28.060 and consistent with WAC 480-09-340, the Commission determines that it is in the public interest to enter into a public hearing concerning all matters relevant to the reasonableness of the refiled Schedule 48, including whether the rates, terms, and conditions contained in that revision are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient. The Commission also determines that the operation of those tariff revisions should be suspended pending such hearing and decision. In accordance with the terms of the Schedule 48 order and with RCW 80.04.130, the burden of proof to show that the revised Schedule 48 rates are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient is on Puget Sound Energy.

IT THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The operation of the above tariff revision filed December **29**, **2000**, is hereby suspended.

2. The Commission hereby enters into an investigation the matters described above. The Company shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such investigation

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to the extent the requirement for such payment may be in accordance with the provisions of chapter 80.20 RCW.

3. Upon further notice, a hearing or hearings may be held at such times and places to be indicated in such notice.

4. No change or alteration **shall** be made in the tariff revision filed herein, during the period of suspension, unless authorized by the Commission.

5. Nothing in this order limits the Commission from taking any appropriate action in the complaint case currently pending before the Commission in *Air Liquide et al. v. Puget Sound* Energy, WUTC Docket Nos. UE-001952, -001956.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 12th day of January 2001.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARILYN SHOWALTER, Chairwoman

RICHARD HEMSTAD, Commissioner