

**BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of

PUGET SOUND ENERGY'S

**2024-2025 Short-Term Firm Energy and
Capacity Request for Proposals**

DOCKET UE-23_____

**DECLARATION OF ZACARIAS
YANEZ IN SUPPORT OF PSE'S
PETITION FOR EXEMPTION**

1. I, ZACARIAS YANEZ, hereby declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington that the following are true and correct:
2. I am a Consulting Energy Trader for Puget Sound Energy ("PSE"). My responsibilities include leading the evaluation and negotiation of mid-term (i.e., three- to five-year) power contracts and acquisitions and assisting the acquisition of electric resources and long-term (i.e., greater than five years) power contracts originated within PSE's energy supply group. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this Declaration.
3. PSE's integrated resource planning analysis evaluates and establishes PSE's capacity (physical reliability) and renewable energy (policy driven) needs and guides PSE's electric resource acquisition process. PSE filed its 2021 Integrated Resource Plan ("2021 IRP"), the most recent planning analysis, with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission ("Commission") on April 1, 2021. The 2021 IRP includes a discussion of the electric planning standard and describes the methodology for analyzing PSE's resource

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needs. On March 23, 2023, PSE filed a 2023 Electric Progress Report (“2023 Progress Report”) on the 2021 Electric IRP.

4. Through its integrated resource planning process, PSE identified a short-term peak capacity need beginning in 2024. To address this short-term capacity need, PSE is submitting a voluntary 2024-2025 Short-Term Firm Energy and Capacity request for proposals (“RFP”) as allowed under WAC 480-107-009(3). The Short-Term Firm Energy and Capacity RFP seeks bids for firm energy and/or capacity to meet PSE’s needs in 2024 and 2025.
5. Due to the need for capacity on a short-term basis, PSE anticipates that respondents to the solicitation will be large, sophisticated organizations with significant resource portfolios and existing transmission arrangements in the region to meet PSE’s needs. PSE has requested that respondents either be an existing party to the WSPP Agreement or capable of becoming a party to the WSPP Agreement prior to September 11, 2023. The WSPP Agreement is the master agreement used for short- and intermediate-term power purchase agreements in the Pacific Northwest.
6. The 2024-2025 Short-Term Firm Energy and Capacity RFP’s expedited process has a quicker pace than that anticipated by the Commission’s existing rules. However, while thirty days is a suitable time for RFPs involving non-standard products or resources, the 2024-2025 Short-Term Firm Energy and Capacity RFP is soliciting standardized market products from sophisticated counterparties with extensive resource portfolios pursuant to the WSPP Agreement. Accordingly, I believe such bidders will not require thirty days to review and

respond to PSE’s Short-Term Firm Energy and Capacity RFP. Prior to the adoption of the current versions of the purchases of resources rules in chapter 480-107 WAC, PSE successfully conducted solicitations for similar standardized market products within a similar time period as is being requested in PSE’s Petition for Exemption. Permitting bidders to respond in fewer than thirty days will assist PSE in meeting its firm energy and capacity needs for 2024 and 2025.

Executed this 15 day of August, 2023, at Bellevue, Washington.

DocuSigned by:
Zacarias Yanez
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Zacarias Yanez