



STATE OF WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
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July 30, 2013

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO REPLY TO RESPONSE
(Reply due by Thursday, August 1, 2013)

RE: *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission v. Puget Sound Energy, Inc.*, Docket UE-130617

TO ALL PARTIES:

On July 17, 2013, the Commission's regulatory staff (Staff) filed a Motion for Consolidation (Motion) in the above-referenced matter. Specifically, Staff asks for the consolidation of Docket UE-130617, the power cost only rate case (PCORC) filing of Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE or the Company), with Dockets UE-130583 and UE-131099.¹ Docket UE-130583 represents PSE's petition for an accounting order authorizing deferral and amortization of certain major maintenance costs associated with the Company's Mint Farm Combined Cycle Generating Station (Major Maintenance Petition).² The latter docket denotes PSE's application regarding the sale of the Electron Hydroelectric Project (Electron Project).³ Staff contends that all three dockets share common facts and principles of law.⁴

¹ With regard to Docket UE-131099, Staff's Motion initially requested consolidation solely with the accounting and ratemaking issues. At the Commission's Open Meeting on July 26, 2013, Staff modified that request and agreed to support consolidation of the entire Electron Hydroelectric Project proceeding.

² PSE's Petition, ¶ 13 and Staff's Motion, ¶ 4.

³ Staff's Motion, ¶ 5.

⁴ *Id.*, ¶¶ 6 and 7.

PSE filed a response (Response) to Staff's Motion on July 25, 2013, stating that the Company does not object to consolidation of Docket UE-130617 with all matters within Docket UE-131099.⁵ PSE does not, however, support consolidation of Docket UE-130583 with these cases.⁶ Instead, PSE asks that the Commission approve the Major Maintenance Petition as filed and outside of the PCORC proceeding.⁷ The Company contends it filed the Major Maintenance Petition on the advice of the Commission in PSE's 2011 general rate case.⁸ The recoverability of deferred major maintenance through its PCA mechanism is not at issue.⁹ According to PSE, the accounting petition was merely a first step in allowing the expenses to be recovered in a PCORC or general rate case proceeding.¹⁰

The Commission would benefit from additional comment on PSE's assertions regarding the Major Maintenance Petition contained within its Response.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That parties who wish to reply to PSE's Response must do so by 3:00 p.m., Thursday, August 1, 2013.

MARGUERITE E. FRIEDLANDER
Administrative Law Judge

⁵ PSE's Response, ¶ 2. ICNU and Public Counsel filed responses supporting Staff's Motion.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*, ¶ 13.

⁸ *Id.*, ¶ 9 and 10, citing *Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission vs. Puget Sound Energy, Inc.*, Dockets UE-111048 and UG-111049, Order 08: Rejecting Tariff Sheets; Authorizing and Requiring Compliance Filing, ¶ 321 (May 7, 2012).

⁹ *Id.*, ¶ 10.

¹⁰ *Id.*