

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND  
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-170033 and  
UG-170034 (*Consolidated*)

RESPONSE TO BENCH REQUEST  
NO. 5 - OFFER OF PUBLIC  
COMMENT EXHIBIT

1. The Public Counsel Unit of the Attorney General's Office hereby offers this Public Comment Exhibit No. BR-5 for admission into the record of the proceeding.
  
2. Public Comment Exhibit. The exhibit consists of letters, e-mails, and other written materials submitted by the public to provide comment on the Puget Sound Energy (PSE) general rate case. These letters and materials were submitted to the Commission and to the office of Public Counsel. Because of the large number of comments, they are submitted in electronic format on the attached disk.
  
3. A voluminous number of public comments were received by the Commission, many via e-mail, internet, telephone, in-person, and U.S. First Class mail. Commission Consumer Protection and Communications Staff entered these comments into a database, which includes all comments received by the Commission. Text of the comments was either directly input into the database, or in the case of comments received via U.S. First Class mail, the document was scanned into .pdf formatted files and those files are referenced in the database. The output from

OFFER OF PUBLIC COMMENT  
BENCH EXHIBIT NO. 5  
DOCKETS UE-170033 AND UG-170034  
(*Consolidated*)

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this database has been included in .pdf format on the enclosed CD, and this one (1) file,<sup>1</sup> along with the 160 file attachments, provided in .pdf, .docx, and .msg formats,<sup>2</sup> comprise all comments submitted to the Commission. The CD also contains one (1) excel spreadsheet<sup>3</sup> and 24 file attachments, provided in .pdf and .pptx formats, tallying comments received by Public Counsel. Of the 24 file attachments, several are duplicative of those received by the Commission, or are additional comments made by individuals who have submitted prior comments. As such, these comments are not included in the totals presented in paragraph 5, below. Comments received by Public Counsel have been converted or scanned to .pdf format.

4. The submitted material has been counted as follows:

a. Comments received by WUTC

Opposing the rate increase	432
Supporting the rate increase	7
Other Position /Undecided	56

b. Comments received by Public Counsel

Opposing the rate increase	16 Received,	8 Non-Duplicative
Supporting the rate increase	3 Received,	1 Non-Duplicative
Other Position /Undecided	3 Received,	1 Non-Duplicative

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<sup>1</sup> See 170033-34 BR 5 Comment Matrix – UTC.pdf.

<sup>2</sup> One comment has been provided in its native e-mail format ( msg) to preserve the source links cited.  
See 170033-34 UTC - Russell Borgman email with sources.msg.

<sup>3</sup> See 170033-34 BR 5 Comment Matrix – PC.xlsx.

5. Public Counsel submits 505 total public comments in the exhibit. Of these, 440 oppose the requested rate increase and eight (8) support the request. Fifty-seven (57) commenters neither oppose nor support PSE's request or offer a separate opinion.

Comments Received in Total

Opposing the rate increase	440
Supporting the rate increase	8
Other Position /Undecided	57
TOTAL:	505

6. DATED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2017.

ROBERT W. FERGUSON  
Attorney General

*/s/ Lisa W. Gafken*

LISA W. GAFKEN  
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Public Counsel Unit Chief