

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of	DOCKET UE-210411
PUGET SOUND ENERGY,	ORDER 01
Renewable Energy Target Progress Report under RCW 19.285.070 and WAC 480-109-210	APPROVING COMPLIANCE WITH ELIGIBLE RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR 2021

BACKGROUND

- 1 The Energy Independence Act (EIA or Act)¹ requires qualifying electric utilities to obtain certain percentages of their electricity from eligible renewable resources. The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) enforces compliance with the EIA by investor-owned utilities.² Ultimately, the Commission must determine “whether the utility has generated, acquired or arranged to acquire enough renewable energy credits or qualifying generation to comply with its renewable resource target.”³
- 2 The Commission has implemented these requirements by establishing a two-step compliance process.⁴ Because a utility may comply with its renewable portfolio standards (RPS) obligation by using renewable energy credits (RECs) acquired in the year after the target year, ultimate compliance for 2021, for example, may be demonstrated as late as June 1, 2023. Accordingly, there will be two Commission decisions for each year’s compliance: (1) a determination that the Company has enough resources to meet the 15 percent target; and (2) the retrospective compliance decision.

¹ Chapter 19.285 RCW.

² RCW 19.285.060(6).

³ WAC 480-109-210(3)(b).

⁴ WAC 480-109-210(1) and (6).

3 The filing before the Commission is the initial resource-adequacy filing made Puget
Sound Energy (PSE or Company) for its 2021 obligation. The Commission will consider
PSE’s compliance with its 2021 target when PSE requests such a finding. Consistent with
the requirements of WAC 480-109-210(6), the Company must make this request through
a filing in this docket no later than June 1, 2023.

4 On June 1, 2021, PSE filed with the Commission its 2021 Annual Renewable Portfolio
Standard Report (RPS Report), which identified a 2021 target of 3,069,109 megawatt-
hours (MWh). Table 1, below, summarizes PSE’s 2021 target and the total amount of
resources that the Company had acquired by January 1, 2021:

Table 1: PSE’s 2021 Renewable Resource Target and Compliance Plan

2021 Target (MWh)	Incremental Hydro (MWh)	Wind (MWh)	Biomass (MWh)	2021 Eligible Renewable Resources (MWh)
3,069,109	118,380	3,855,696	120,421	4,094,497

5 PSE seeks an order from the Commission confirming that the Company has complied
with the Commission’s EIA reporting requirements and accepting the Company’s
calculations and eligibility of the renewable resources identified in the RPS Report for
2021.

6 On June 7, 2021, PSE filed a replacement Attachment 2, Electric Analysis Model, in
support of its RPS Report.

7 On June 8, 2021, the Commission issued a Notice inviting interested persons to file
written comments on PSE’s RPS Report. During the comment period, the Commission
received written comments from Commission staff (Staff). No public comments were
submitted.

8 Based on the information that the Company provided in its RPS Report and supplemental
filing, Staff believes that PSE correctly calculated its 2021 RPS target, and that it has
acquired sufficient resources to exceed that target.

9 Commission rules require the Company to document its use of renewable resources under
various renewable energy programs in its annual report. This information needs to be
updated for final compliance, and Staff asks the Commission to require PSE to do so,
listing details about program usage in the final 2021 compliance report, allowing Staff to
determine whether its resources meet EIA requirements.

- 10 Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order in this docket determining that:
- (1) The 2021 renewable energy target for Puget Sound Energy is 3,069,109 megawatt-hours.
 - (2) Puget Sound Energy has demonstrated that, by January 1, 2021, it acquired 3,069,109 megawatt-hours of eligible renewable resources sufficient to supply 15 percent of its load for 2021.
 - (3) Puget Sound Energy has complied with the June 1, 2021, reporting requirements pursuant to WAC 480-109-210.
 - (4) Cosmo Specialty Fibers 1, Cosmo Specialty Fibers 2, Goodnoe Hills, Hidden Hollow Energy LLC, Klondike Wind Power III, Marengo, Nine Canyon Wind, Rolling Hills, Sierra Pacific Burlington, Stimson Lumber-plummer, Stoltze Cogeneration Plant, and Top of the World are eligible renewable facilities for RPS compliance.

DISCUSSION

- 11 The Commission accepts PSE's calculation of 3,069,109 MWh as the Company's renewable energy target for 2021 and determines that PSE has identified sufficient resources to be able to meet that target. The Commission will make its final determination about whether PSE has met its 2021 target when the Company requests such a finding, no later than June 1, 2023. To assist Staff with determining whether PSE's resources meet EIA eligibility requirements, PSE must provide details about which certificates were used for its various renewable energy programs, as required by WAC 480-109-210(2)(d)(i), in its final compliance report for 2021.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 12 (1) The Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including electric companies.
- 13 (2) PSE is an electric company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 14 (3) PSE serves more than 25,000 customers within the State of Washington and is a "qualifying utility" within the meaning of RCW 19.285.030(19).

- 15 (4) PSE has properly calculated its renewable energy target for 2021 to be 3,069,109 MWh.
- 16 (5) By January 1, 2021, PSE had acquired sufficient eligible renewable resources to supply at least 15 percent of its load for the remainder of 2021.
- 17 (6) PSE has met the reporting requirements of RCW 19.285.070 and WAC 480-109-210. These reporting requirements include PSE's plan for meeting its RPS obligation for the remainder of 2021.
- 18 (7) Pursuant to WAC 480-109-210(4), PSE must provide a summary of its RPS Report to its customers, by bill inset or other suitable method, within 30 days of the date of this Order.
- 19 (8) Pursuant to WAC 480-109-210(6), PSE must file a report no later than June 1, 2023, that lists certificate numbers in Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System for every megawatt-hour and renewable energy credit that PSE retired to meet the January 1, 2021, target.
- 20 (9) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on August 12, 2021.
- 21 (10) After reviewing PSE's Petition and RPS Report and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission accepts PSE's calculation of 835,093 MWh as the Company's renewable energy target for 2021 and adopts Staff's recommendations as set forth in paragraph 10 of this Order.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 22 (1) The Commission accepts the calculation of 3,069,109 MWh as the 2021 renewable energy target for Puget Sound Energy.
- 23 (2) Puget Sound Energy has demonstrated that, by January 1, 2021, it acquired 3,069,109 megawatt-hours of eligible renewable resources sufficient to supply 15 percent of its load for 2021.
- 24 (3) Puget Sound Energy has complied with the June 1, 2021, reporting requirements pursuant to WAC 480-109-210.

- 25 (4) Cosmo Specialty Fibers 1, Cosmo Specialty Fibers 2, Goodnoe Hills, Hidden Hollow Energy LLC, Klondike Wind Power III, Marengo, Nine Canyon Wind, Rolling Hills, Sierra Pacific Burlington, Stimson Lumber-plummer, Stoltze Cogeneration Plant, and Top of the World are eligible renewable facilities for RPS compliance.
- 26 (5) Puget Sound Energy's final compliance report must list certificate numbers for every renewable energy credit that Puget Sound Energy retired in the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System and details about which certificates were used for its voluntary renewable energy programs in 2021.
- 27 (6) The Commission Secretary is authorized to accept or approve a filing that complies with the requirements of this Order.

Dated at Lacey, Washington, and effective August 12, 2021.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Chair

ANN E. RENDAHL, Commissioner

JAY M. BALASBAS, Commissioner