

EXHIBIT NO. _____ (RAF-1T)
DOCKET NO. _____
2001 PSE RATE CASE
WITNESS: RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD

BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

Respondent.

DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD
ON BEHALF OF PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

NOVEMBER 26, 2001

1 **PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.**

2 **DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD**

3
4 **I. BACKGROUND AND QUALIFICATIONS**

5 **Q: Please state your name and business address.**

6 A: My name is Russell A. Feingold and my business address is 200 Wheeler Road,
7 Suite 400, Burlington, Massachusetts 01803. I am employed by Navigant
8 Consulting, Inc. ("NCI") as a Managing Director and lead its Regulation &
9 Litigation Support Practice. I have been employed by NCI since January 1997.

10 **Q: Please describe in more detail the business activities of NCI.**

11 A: NCI has served the electric and natural gas industries since 1983. We offer a wide
12 range of consulting services related to information technology, process/operations
13 management, business strategy development, and marketing and sales designed to
14 assist our clients in a business environment of changing regulation, increased
15 competition and evolving technology. From an industry-wide perspective, NCI
16 has extensive experience in all aspects of the North American natural gas industry,
17 including utility costing and pricing, gas supply and transportation planning,
18 competitive market analysis and regulatory practices and policies gained through
19 management and operating responsibilities at gas distribution, pipeline and other
20 energy-related companies, and through a wide variety of client assignments. NCI
21 has assisted numerous gas distribution companies located in the U.S. and Canada.

22 **Q: What has been the nature of your work in the utility consulting field?**

23 A: I have over 26 years of experience in the utility industry, the last 23 years of which
24 have been in the field of utility management and economic consulting.
25 Specializing in the gas industry, I have advised and assisted utility management,
26 industry trade and research organizations and large energy users in matters

1 pertaining to costing and pricing, competitive market analysis, regulatory planning
2 and policy development, gas supply planning issues, strategic business planning,
3 merger and acquisition analysis, corporate restructuring, new product and service
4 development, load research studies and market planning. I have prepared and
5 presented expert testimony before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
6 ("FERC") and several state and provincial regulatory commissions and have
7 spoken widely on issues and activities dealing with the pricing and marketing of
8 gas utility services.

9 Further background information summarizing my education, presentation
10 of expert testimony and other industry-related activities is included in
11 Exhibit RAF-2 to my testimony.

12 **Q: Have you testified previously before the Washington Utilities and**
13 **Transportation Commission ("the Commission")?**

14 A: Yes, I have testified in Docket Nos. UG-950278 and UG-940814/UG-940034 on
15 behalf of Washington Natural Gas Company on the subject of conducting
16 allocated cost of service studies for rate design purposes and the development of
17 costing analyses to guide the design of rates for transportation services.

18 II. PURPOSE

19 **Q: For what purpose has Puget Sound Energy ("the Company") retained NCI?**

20 A: NCI has been retained by the Company as a consultant in the area of utility
21 costing and rate design and related regulatory matters. Specifically, I was
22 requested by the Company to assist its staff in preparing an allocated cost of
23 service study for its retail natural gas operations for submission in this rate
24 proceeding.

1 **Q: What is the purpose of your testimony in this proceeding?**

2 A: The purpose of my testimony is to present the results of the retail natural gas cost
3 of service study filed by the Company in this proceeding. I will also review and
4 discuss the most important considerations in preparing a cost of service study for a
5 local distribution company ("LDC"). Finally, I will discuss and support the
6 underlying methodology and conceptual basis used in the Company's gas cost of
7 service study.

8 **III. INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPANY'S COST OF**
9 **SERVICE STUDY PRESENTATION**

10 **Q: Are you sponsoring any exhibits that present the Company's cost of service**
11 **study?**

12 A: Yes, I am. The following exhibits, which were prepared under my supervision
13 and direction, present the Company's cost of service study:

- 14 • Exhibit RAF-3 Summary of Cost Study Results
- 15 • Exhibit RAF-4 Detailed Cost Study Results
- 16 • Exhibit RAF-5 Class Load and Service Characteristics of the
17 Company's Customers
- 18 • Exhibit RAF-6 Customer Classified Revenue Requirement
- 19 • Exhibit RAF-7 Daily Use of Jackson Prairie Storage

20 **Q: Please describe Exhibit Nos. ___(RAF-3) and ___(RAF-4) in more detail.**

21 A: Exhibit RAF-3 presents the following results of the Company's cost of service
22 study:

- 23 • Earned Return Summary – Including Gas Costs
- 24 • Earned Return Summary – Excluding Gas Costs
- 25 • Revenue Requirements Summary – Including Gas Costs
- 26 • Revenue Requirements Summary – Excluding Gas Costs

- 1 • Gas Cost Sub-Report
- 2 • Cost Classifiers
- 3 • External Allocators
- 4 • Internal Allocators

5 Exhibit RAF-4 presents all details of the Company's proposed cost study
6 by Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") primary account.

7 **Q: What was the source of the cost data analyzed in the Company's cost of**
8 **service study?**

9 A: All cost of service data have been extracted from the Company's total cost of
10 service (i.e., total revenue requirement) contained in this filing. Where more
11 detailed information was required to perform various subsidiary analyses related
12 to certain plant and expense elements, the data were derived from the historical
13 books and records of the Company.

14 **Q: Please describe the overall cost study considerations that you deemed**
15 **appropriate to reflect in the Company's cost of service study.**

16 A: Consistent with the approach utilized by the Company in its last gas rate
17 proceeding, Docket No. UG-950278, a primary consideration was to derive the
18 cost of providing transportation service across all of the Company's major
19 customer groups. This required that I analyze the costs of moving gas on the
20 Company's transmission and distribution (T&D) system, as well as certain costs
21 associated with the Company's upstream supply and capacity resources. In
22 conjunction with this analysis, it was necessary to identify and quantify the
23 specific cost elements attributable to transportation service. This was
24 accomplished by configuring the Company's cost of service studies in a manner
25 that permitted the use of a "bottom-up" costing approach. Under this approach,
26 each specific cost element attributable to transportation service was separately

1 identified, quantified, and aggregated together for purposes of establishing a
2 transportation cost of service level. This is in contrast to a "top-down" approach,
3 which simply utilizes the non-gas costs of an LDC as a proxy for the cost of
4 transportation service. Finally, the Company's cost of service study was
5 developed in a manner to meet the transportation service costing considerations of
6 the Commission, as delineated in its Order in Docket No. UG-940034/UG-
7 940814.

8 **Q: Did you make any changes to the classes of service included in the**
9 **Company's cost of service study compared to the cost study submitted in its**
10 **last gas rate proceeding?**

11 A: Yes, I did. In the Company's currently filed cost of service study, I have treated as
12 separate classes Rate 57 – Transportation Service and Rates 99/199/299 Special
13 Contracts. In addition, I eliminated the General Service (Rates 11, 16 and 61) and
14 Armed Forces (Rate 43) classes.

15 **IV. FACTORS INFLUENCING THE COST ALLOCATION** 16 **FRAMEWORK**

17 **Q: Please discuss the factors that you believe can influence the overall cost**
18 **allocation framework utilized by an LDC.**

19 A: In undertaking a cost of service study, the overall framework within which an
20 LDC performs its cost study can be influenced by various factors. By overall
21 framework, I mean the three standard steps or phases followed by a utility when
22 performing a cost study – cost functionalization, cost classification and cost
23 allocation. In my opinion, these factors can include: (1) the physical
24 configuration of the LDC's gas system; (2) the availability of data within the LDC;
25 and (3) the state regulatory policies and requirements applicable to the LDC. The
26 physical configuration of the LDC's gas system refers to considerations such as:
(1) transmission and distribution system configuration; (2) mainline pipeline

1 functionality; and (3) system operating pressure configuration. These
2 considerations include determining whether: (1) the distribution system is a
3 centralized grid/single city-gate or a dispersed/multiple city-gate configuration;
4 (2) the LDC has an integrated transmission and distribution system or a
5 distribution-only operation; and (3) the system operates under a multiple-pressure
6 based or a single-pressure based configuration.

7 With regard to data availability, the structure of the LDC's books and
8 records can influence the cost study framework. This structure relates to attributes
9 such as the level of detail, segregation of data by operating unit or geographic
10 region and the types of load data available.

11 State regulatory policies and requirements refers to the particular
12 approaches used to establish utility rates in the state. For example, any specific
13 methodological preferences or guidelines for performing cost studies or designing
14 rates established by the state regulatory body can affect the particular cost
15 allocation method utilized by the LDC.

16 **Q: How do these factors relate to the specific circumstances applicable to the**
17 **Company?**

18 A: Regarding the physical configuration of the Company's gas system, it is a
19 dispersed/multiple city-gate, integrated transmission/distribution and multi
20 pressure-based system. The Company has detailed plant accounting records for
21 many of its distribution-related facilities. Additionally, detailed gas supply
22 expense data is available by specific supply and capacity resource. Finally, over
23 the years, this Commission has expressed a preference for LDCs to utilize a
24 costing methodology that allocates some fixed costs on the basis of annual use (or
25 throughput) in order to reflect the fact that a gas distribution system is built to
26 deliver gas year round.

1 **Q: Why are these considerations relevant to conducting the Company's cost of**
2 **service study?**

3 A: As I will discuss later in my testimony, it is important to understand these
4 considerations because they influence the overall context within which the
5 Company's cost studies were conducted. In particular, they provided me with an
6 indication of where I should focus my efforts for purposes of conducting a more
7 detailed analysis of the Company's gas system design and operations, developing
8 supporting cost data and better understanding the regulatory environment in the
9 State of Washington as it pertains to cost of service studies and gas ratemaking
10 issues.

11 **V. GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF COST ALLOCATION**

12 **Q: Would you state the purpose of a cost of service study?**

13 A: A cost of service study is an analysis of costs which attempts to assign to each
14 customer or rate class its proportionate share of the Company's total cost of
15 service (i.e., the Company's total revenue requirement). The results of these
16 studies can be utilized to determine the relative cost of service for each class and
17 to help determine the individual class revenue requirements.

18 **Q: Are there certain guiding principles that should be followed when**
19 **performing a cost of service study?**

20 A: Yes, there are. First, the fundamental and underlying philosophy applicable to all
21 cost studies pertains to the concept of *cost causation* for purposes of allocating
22 costs to customer groups. Cost causation addresses the question – which
23 customer or group of customers causes the utility to incur particular types of
24 costs? To answer this question, it is necessary to establish a linkage between a
25 utility's customers and the particular costs incurred by the utility in serving those
26 customers.

1 The essential element in the selection and development of a reasonable
2 cost of service study allocation methodology is the establishment of relationships
3 between customer requirements, load profiles and usage characteristics on the one
4 hand and the costs incurred by the Company in serving those requirements on the
5 other hand. For example, providing a customer with gas service during peak
6 periods can have much different cost implications for the utility than service to a
7 customer who requires off-peak gas service.

8 The Company's distribution system is designed to meet three primary
9 objectives: (1) to extend distribution services to all *customers* entitled to be
10 attached to the system; (2) to meet the aggregate peak design day capacity
11 requirements of all customers entitled to service on the peak day; and (3) to
12 deliver volumes of natural gas to those customers either on a sales or
13 transportation basis. There are certain costs associated with each of these
14 objectives. Also, there is generally a direct link between the manner in which
15 such costs are defined and their subsequent allocation.

16 *Customer* related costs are incurred to attach a customer to the distribution
17 system, meter any gas usage and maintain the customer's account. Customer costs
18 are a function of the number of customers served and continue to be incurred
19 whether or not the customer uses any gas. They may include capital costs
20 associated with minimum size distribution mains, services, meters, regulators and
21 customer service and accounting expenses.

22 *Demand or capacity* related costs are associated with plant that is
23 designed, installed and operated to meet maximum hourly or daily gas flow
24 requirements, such as the transmission and distribution mains, or more localized
25 distribution facilities which are designed to satisfy individual customer maximum
26 demands. Gas supply contracts also have a capacity related component of cost

1 relative to the Company's requirements for serving daily peak demands and the
2 winter peaking season.

3 *Commodity* related costs are those costs that vary with the throughput sold
4 to, or transported for, customers. Costs related to gas supply are classified as
5 commodity related to the extent they vary with the amount of gas volumes
6 purchased by the Company for its sales service customers.

7 **Q: What steps did you follow to perform the Company's cost of service studies?**

8 A: I followed three broad steps to perform the Company's cost of service studies:
9 (1) functionalization; (2) classification; and (3) allocation. The first step,
10 functionalization, identifies and separates plant and expenses into specific
11 categories based on the various characteristics of utility operation. The
12 Company's functional cost categories associated with gas service include:
13 production, storage, transmission and distribution. Classification of costs, the
14 second step, further separates the functionalized plant and expenses into the three
15 cost-defining characteristics which I previously discussed: (1) customer; (2)
16 demand or capacity; and (3) commodity. The final step is the allocation of each
17 functionalized and classified cost element to the individual customer or rate class.
18 Costs typically are allocated on customer, demand, commodity or revenue
19 allocation factors.

20 **Q: How does the cost analyst establish the cost and utility service relationships**
21 **you previously discussed?**

22 A: To establish these relationships, the cost analyst must analyze the Company's gas
23 system design and operations, its accounting records and its system and customer
24 load data (e.g., annual and peak period gas consumption levels). From the results
25 of those analyses, methods of direct assignment and "common" cost allocation
26 methodologies can be chosen for all of the utility's plant and expense elements.

1 **Q: Please explain what you mean by the term "direct assignment."**

2 A: The term "direct assignment" relates to a specific identification and isolation of
3 plant and/or expense incurred exclusively to serve a specific customer or group of
4 customers. Direct assignments best reflect the cost causative characteristics of
5 serving individual customers or groups of customers. Therefore, in performing a
6 cost of service study, the cost analyst seeks to maximize the amount of plant and
7 expense directly assigned to particular customer groups to avoid the need to rely
8 upon other more generalized allocation methods.

9 Direct assignments of plant and expenses to particular customers or classes
10 of customers are made on the basis of special studies wherever the necessary data
11 are available. These assignments are developed by detailed analyses of the
12 utility's maps and records, work order descriptions, property records and customer
13 accounting records. Within time and budgetary constraints, the greater the
14 magnitude of cost responsibility based upon direct assignments, the less reliance
15 need be placed on common plant allocation methodologies associated with joint
16 use plant.

17 **Q: Is it realistic to assume that a large portion of the plant and expenses of a**
18 **utility can be directly assigned?**

19 A: No, it is not. The nature of utility operations is characterized by the existence of
20 common or joint use facilities. Out of necessity, then, to the extent a utility's plant
21 and expense cannot be directly assigned to customer groups, "common" allocation
22 methods must be derived to assign or allocate the remaining costs to the customer
23 classes. The analyses discussed above facilitate the derivation of reasonable
24 allocation factors for cost allocation purposes.

25
26

1 **Q: As part of your work, did you review and analyze the Company's gas system**
2 **design and operations?**

3 A: Yes, I did. Since it is widely recognized that a utility's plant in service
4 components provide the most direct link to a utility's gas service requirements, I
5 initially focused my efforts on better understanding the nature and operation of the
6 Company's gas system. This effort included review of the Company's
7 transmission and distribution systems, the types and levels of costs incurred in
8 connecting new customers to its distribution system, and the design and operation
9 of the Company's winter season and gas peaking supply facilities (i.e., its
10 underground storage and propane-air facilities). Additionally, due to the
11 magnitude of the costs, I analyzed in detail the Company's gas supply portfolio,
12 including the Company's mix of supply resources, its acquisition and utilization of
13 firm pipeline contract capacities from the various pipeline suppliers serving the
14 Company, its winter seasonal services (i.e., contract storage) and other relevant
15 cost and operational characteristics.

16 **Q: Please explain the most important considerations you relied upon in**
17 **determining the cost allocation methodologies that were used to perform the**
18 **Company's cost of service study.**

19 A: As stated above, in order to allocate costs within any cost of service study, the
20 factors that cause the costs to be incurred must be identified and understood.
21 Additionally, the cost analyst needs to develop data in a form that is compatible
22 with and supportive of rate design proposals. Of further concern is the availability
23 of data for use in developing alternative cost allocation factors. In evaluating any
24 cost allocation methodology, it is appropriate that consideration should be given
25 to:

- 26 1. Recognition of *cost causality*;

- 1 2. Results that are *representative* of the true costs of serving different types
- 2 of customers;
- 3 3. A sound *rationale* or *theoretical basis*;
- 4 4. *Stability* of results over time;
- 5 5. Logical *consistency* and *completeness*; and
- 6 6. Ease of *implementation*.

7 **Q: Please describe the key issues related to the allocation of demand-related**
8 **costs within a cost of service study.**

9 A: A complex part of the allocation process is the allocation of demand-related costs.
10 Several methodologies have been used by gas utilities to develop allocation
11 factors for the demand components of costs. In fact, it is not unusual for more
12 than one demand cost allocation methodology to be used in a cost of service
13 study. Despite the use of different methods to allocate demand costs, it is fair to
14 say that three basic methodologies form the foundation for the allocation process.
15 These three methodologies are Peak Demand Allocations, Average and Excess
16 Demand Allocations and Non-Coincident Demand Allocations. Each of these
17 demand allocation methodologies is discussed below.

18 The concept of Peak Demand Allocation is premised on the notion that
19 investment in capacity is determined by the peak load or peak loads of the
20 Company. Under this methodology, demand related costs are allocated to each
21 customer class or group in proportion to the demand coincident with the system
22 peak or peaks of that class or group. The Peak Demand Allocation process might
23 focus on a single peak, such as the highest daily demand occurring during the test
24 period. Other variations might include the average of several cold days, or the
25 expected contribution to the system peak on a design day. In some instances, it
26 may be appropriate to determine the peak demand responsibility on an hourly

1 basis rather than a daily basis where hourly requirements dictate a company's
2 investment in distribution facilities.

3 The Average and Excess Demand Allocation methodology, also referred to
4 as the "used and unused capacity" method, allocates demand related costs to the
5 classes of service on the basis of system and class load factor characteristics.
6 Specifically, the portion of utility facilities and related expenses required to
7 service the average load is allocated on the basis of each class' average demand.
8 The portion of these facilities is derived by multiplying the total demand related
9 costs by the utility's system load factor. The remaining demand related costs are
10 allocated to the classes based on each class' excess or unused demand (i.e., total
11 class non-coincident demand minus average demand).

12 A simplified version of this methodology is the Peak and Average
13 methodology. This cost methodology gives equivalent weight to peak demands
14 and average demands. As is the case with the Average and Excess method, it has
15 the effect of allocating a portion of the utility's demand-related costs on a
16 commodity-related basis.

17 The Non-Coincident Demand Allocation methodology recognizes that
18 certain facilities, in particular distribution facilities, are designed to serve local
19 peaks which may or may not be coincident with the system peak loads. Using this
20 methodology, demand costs are allocated on the basis of each group's or rate class'
21 maximum demand, irrespective of the time of the system peak.

1 its service obligation throughout the year. From a gas engineering perspective, a
2 peak demand design criterion should always be utilized when designing
3 transmission and distribution systems to accommodate the gas demand
4 requirements of the customers served from that system. As such, *cost causation*
5 with respect to certain demand and customer related costs is unrelated to average
6 demand characteristics. Such demand characteristics only serve as a measure of
7 system utilization – not cost causation.

8 Additionally, use of average demand characteristics for the allocation of
9 demand related costs penalizes customers that exhibit efficient gas consumption
10 characteristics (i.e., customers with high load factors) and encourages the
11 inefficient use of the LDC's gas system by customers with low load factors.
12 Clearly, under-utilization of an LDC's gas system is a result that an LDC can
13 hardly encourage, recognizing that higher system utilization will result in lower
14 unit costs to *all* customers served by the LDC.

15 For the above-stated reasons, it is critical that the cost analyst carefully
16 evaluate the degree of reliance placed upon commodity-based allocation factors,
17 as derived from annual gas throughput volume, for purposes of allocating *fixed*
18 demand and customer related costs of an LDC.

19 **Q: Are these conclusions equally applicable to the Company's class load**
20 **characteristics?**

21 A: Yes, they are. These class load characteristics must be recognized within the
22 Company's cost of service study through the proper selection and development of
23 cost allocation factors to ensure that the resulting costs of serving its customers
24 are reasonable.

1 **VIII. THE METHODOLOGICAL AND CONCEPTUAL BASIS**
2 **USED IN THE COMPANY'S COST OF SERVICE STUDY**

3 **Q: Please explain the reasons why the Company chose the particular cost**
4 **allocation methodology utilized in its gas cost of service study.**

5 A: The Company's proposed cost allocation methodology was chosen for the
6 following reasons:

- 7 1. It reasonably reflects the principles deemed appropriate by this
8 Commission in establishing a cost allocation methodology.
- 9 2. It satisfies the most important attributes considered when evaluating cost
10 allocation methodologies.
- 11 3. It has a sound conceptual and theoretical basis.
- 12 4. It is compatible with the prevailing economics and cost structure of the
13 energy marketplace.
- 14 5. It reflects the regulatory considerations of this Commission pertaining to
15 cost allocation methodologies for LDCs.

16 The Company's proposed cost allocation methodology *only* relies upon
17 throughput-based allocation factors, in conjunction with other appropriate
18 allocation factors, where plant investment is deemed to be common or joint-use in
19 nature (e.g., transmission and distribution mains). Where the Company can
20 directly identify specific costs to serve customers, those costs are directly assigned
21 to customers rather than having to use one or more common allocation factors to
22 assign those costs.

23 Next, the Company's method recognizes the true nature and characteristics
24 of an LDC's costs by classifying and allocating only a relatively small portion of
25 total non-gas costs as commodity-related. This is accomplished through the use of
26 the Company's annual system load factor to disaggregate costs between demand

1 and commodity classification categories. In my judgment, use of the LDC's
2 system load factor to determine this cost split is a sound approach and provides
3 this Commission with a rational basis to recognize both the system design
4 characteristics of an LDC (i.e., cost incurrence principles) and system utilization
5 concepts.

6 **Q: How have the costs of the Company's joint use, T & D system been classified**
7 **and allocated in its proposed cost of service study?**

8 A: The Company proposes to use a "modified" Peak and Average Method, wherein
9 the classification of costs between demand and commodity is developed based on
10 the Company's system annual load factor that is derived on a peak day basis. This
11 is the same demand cost allocation method adopted by the Commission in the
12 Company's last gas rate proceeding, Docket No. UG-940814. Specifically, the
13 Company's annual load factor based on its proposed determination of peak day
14 demand supports the classification of 39% of the above-mentioned costs as
15 commodity-related. Once these costs are classified, the demand-related costs are
16 allocated to the Company's customer classes using each class' contribution to the
17 coincident peak day demand and the commodity-related costs are allocated based
18 on each class' annual throughput volumes.

19 **Q: Does the modified Peak and Average method reasonably reflect the nature of**
20 **a gas utility's costs and the primary system design considerations that give**
21 **rise to those costs?**

22 A: Yes, it does. It is a widely accepted principle within the utility industry that the
23 measure of load factor is a key determinant in establishing a linkage between the
24 gas consumption characteristics of an LDC's customers and the particular costs
25 incurred by the LDC in serving those customers. The modified Peak and Average
26 method directly captures this principle in the way it is applied to an LDC's cost of
service and customer classes. The method is a variation of a cost allocation

1 method that has been accepted and used by utility regulatory commissions in other
2 states, including New Jersey, Michigan, and Pennsylvania.

3 In the *Gas Distribution Rate Design Manual*, published by the National
4 Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners ("NARUC"), it is stated at page
5 27 that "(t)he most commonly used demand allocations for natural gas distribution
6 utilities are the coincident demand method, the non-coincident demand method,
7 the average and peak method, or some modification or combination of the three."

8 It goes on to describe the Average and Peak Demand Method as follows:

9 This method reflects a compromise between the coincident and
10 non-coincident demand methods. Total demand costs are
11 multiplied by the *system's load factor* to arrive at the capacity costs
12 attributed to average use and are apportioned to the various
13 customer classes on an annual volumetric basis. The remaining
14 costs are considered to have been incurred to meet the individual
15 peak demands of the various classes of service and are allocated on
16 the basis of the coincident peak of each class. This method
17 allocates cost to all classes of customers and *tempers the*
18 *apportionment of costs between the high and low load factor*
19 *customers.* (Emphasis added.)

20 **Q: Please explain the method used by the Company to determine the peak day**
21 **demand included in its modified Peak and Average Method?**

22 A: The Company proposes to determine its peak day demand for cost allocation
23 purposes using a demand level that reflects a combination of its actual historical
24 and design day demand levels and associated weather conditions. Specifically,
25 the peak demand level was derived based on a 50/50 weighting of the Heating
26 Degree-Days (HDDs) experienced by the Company on the highest 3-day sustained

1 peak over the last five years and its design day HDDs. This method results in a
2 peak day demand for the Company of approximately 7,250,000 therms based on a
3 47 HDD level. The resulting demand level is reflective of the current gas usage
4 characteristics by class experienced by the Company during its test year, the
5 twelve months ending June 30, 2001.

6 **Q: Why did you choose to reflect a combination of the Company's historical**
7 **peak day and design day demands in the determination of its peak day for**
8 **cost allocation purposes?**

9 A: The Company chose this method to reflect a proper balancing of various
10 conceptual, operational and regulatory considerations. In the Company's last gas
11 rate case, much discussion occurred on the issue of peak day determination for
12 cost allocation purposes. I was actively involved in those discussions and closely
13 followed the process that resulted in the Commission adopting a peak
14 determination method that was proposed by the Commission Staff based on the
15 average of the Company's 5 highest peak days for 3 years. In my judgment, the
16 Company's proposed method in this proceeding that uses a combination of actual
17 peak days and its design day best accommodates the Commission's expressed
18 preferences regarding this issue.

19 In its Decision in Docket No. UG-940034/UG-940814, the Commission
20 stated that the Staff method, ". . . best considers peak usage, accounts for the
21 usage of different classes, including actual use of interruptible customers, and
22 reflects historical peak usage patterns." (Fifth Supplemental Order, mimeo at 8).
23 The Commission further stated that, "The Commission Staff proposal offers the
24 best balance among stability, validity, usage trends, and actual use during
25 experienced weather conditions." (Fifth Supplemental Order, mimeo at 8).
26 Nevertheless, the Commission did acknowledge that they were not convinced that
the demand measure was perfect and that they believed it was preferable to use

1 data from a longer time period to remove variations due to unusual weather and to
2 achieve greater stability.

3 The Company believes its proposed peak day determination is preferable
4 to the "5 highest peak days for 3 years" method for a number of reasons. These
5 include:

- 6 1. It results in a relatively stable determinant of peak day demand by virtue of
7 the longer length of time (5 years) used for capturing the Company's actual
8 historical peak demands and the inclusion of the design day demand that
9 provides a further stabilizing effect on the resulting peak demand level.
- 10 2. The method properly reflects actual usage trends in the peak day demands
11 experienced by the Company because the resulting peak day allocator will
12 change over time as the peak day usage characteristics of customers
13 change.
- 14 3. The method appropriately captures actual peak day use by class (including
15 interruptible customers) during experienced weather conditions and uses
16 that information to derive a peak demand that is reflective of the current
17 usage characteristics of its customers.
- 18 4. The method is consistent with the level of growth in customer demands for
19 gas during peak periods and is more closely related to the change in fixed
20 plant investment over time because of its reliance on a combination of
21 historical peak demands and design day demand.
- 22 5. The inclusion of design day demand as one component of the method
23 ensures that the planning and design basis for the Company's gas system
24 resources, which the Company must rely upon in the acquisition of its
25 upstream gas supply-related resources and in the design of its own
26

1 production, storage, transmission and distribution facilities required to
2 service its customers, is recognized in the allocation of those same costs.

3 **Q: Under the Company's proposed method, what were the weather conditions**
4 **experienced during the 3-day sustained peak period?**

5 A: On December 20-22, 1998, the Company experienced average daily temperatures
6 of 20°F, 22°F, and 23°F, respectively, for a range of between 43 and 45 HDDs.
7 The Company's current design day temperature condition is 51 HDDs.

8 **Q: What was the level of gas demand actually experienced by the Company**
9 **during the December 20-22, 1998 peak period?**

10 A: During December 20-22, 1998, the Company experienced peak demands of
11 6,619,280 therms, 6,782,360 therms, and 6,607,650 therms, respectively, for an
12 average daily demand level of 6,669,763 therms.

13 **Q: Is the Company's estimate of peak day demand at 47 HDDs during the test**
14 **year reasonable in view of the actual peak demands it experienced during the**
15 **December 1998 time period?**

16 A: Yes, I believe it is. The peak day demand proposed by the Company reflects a
17 temperature condition that is approximately 9.3% colder than under the average
18 daily temperature conditions during the peak of December 20-22, 1998. At
19 47 HDDs, the estimated peak day demand of 7,250,000 therms is only 8.7%
20 higher than the average daily demand during December 20-22, 1998. Recognizing
21 that more than three years have passed since that time, the combination of colder
22 weather and a 9.2% growth rate in customers (with 95% new residential
23 customers) clearly supports the reasonableness of the Company's current peak day
24 demand level for cost allocation purposes.

25 **Q: How does the Company's proposed method of determining its peak demand**
26 **treat its interruptible sales and transportation service customers?**

A: The method reflects a combination of the recorded level of interruptible gas sales
and transportation service that was provided during its actual peak and the

1 assumption of interruptible customers not being served on its design day. This
2 approach results in a reduced level of interruptible service compared to the level
3 experienced in December 1998 in recognition of the colder weather conditions
4 (47 HDDs compared to 43 HDDs) associated with the established peak demand
5 for cost allocation purposes.

6 **Q: Please describe how investment in distribution mains was classified and**
7 **allocated.**

8 A: Before classifying and allocating distribution mains, an extensive analysis of the
9 Company's facilities serving its largest customers was performed to identify
10 dedicated plant investment that could be directly assigned to these customers. The
11 analysis covered all customers served under Rate Schedules 87 and 57. For each
12 of these large customers, its location on the Company's distribution system was
13 determined and plant investment data was compiled to develop the original cost of
14 the distribution lines dedicated to serve the customer. For each customer, the
15 particular main was traced upstream to its intersection with a 4-inch or larger
16 "common" main. Based on this analysis, it was determined that most Rate 87 and
17 57 customers were served off of distribution mains 4 inches or larger in diameter.
18 This conclusion led the Company to disaggregate its distribution main investment
19 into two subgroups: (1) mains less than 4 inches in diameter and (2) mains
20 4 inches or greater in diameter.

21 Using the results of this analysis, the costs of the dedicated small diameter
22 (less than 4 inches) facilities directly assigned to Rate 85, 87, 57 and the special
23 contract customers were subtracted from the total mains investment for this
24 subgroup. For mains 4 inches or greater, the plant balance was classified between
25 demand and commodity on a system load factor basis and allocated to *all*
26 customers based on design day demand and commodity throughput allocation

1 factors. Mains less than 4 inches in diameter were classified in the same manner
2 and were allocated to all customers except Rate 85, 87, 57 and special contract
3 customers.

4 **Q: Why didn't the Rate 85, 87, 57 and special contract customers receive an**
5 **allocated share of the costs associated with the distribution mains less than**
6 **4 inches in diameter?**

7 A: These customers did not cause the Company to install any downstream
8 distribution mains on their behalf. In other words, these customers do not utilize
9 any of the Company's downstream distribution mains to receive gas volumes at
10 their burner-tip locations.

11 **Q: In conjunction with the above-described analysis of distribution mains, were**
12 **there other facilities identified which exclusively served these larger**
13 **customers?**

14 A: Yes. The actual embedded costs of service lines and industrial M&R equipment
15 installed to serve these customers were directly assigned to the Rate 87 and 57
16 customers.

17 **Q: Please describe the special studies you conducted for purposes of allocating**
18 **other distribution plant investment.**

19 A: Regarding the Company's major plant accounts, customer weighting factors were
20 developed to allocate the following plant accounts: Services – Account No. 380,
21 Meters – Account 381, Meter Installations – Account No. 382, House
22 Regulators – Account No. 383, House Regulator Installations – Account No. 384,
23 and Industrial Measuring & Regulating Station Equipment – Account No. 385.
24 These weighting factors reflect any differences in the current unit costs that
25 particular customer groups cause the Company to incur. For example, the cost of
26 a 5/8-inch plastic service line that could serve a residential customer costs less, on
a per unit basis, than the cost of a 4-inch steel service line to serve a larger
industrial customer. The use of weighting factors takes these unit cost differences

1 into account when assigning costs to these two customer classes. It should be
2 noted that these weighting factors were used to assign costs net of the costs of
3 facilities which were already directly assigned to specific large customers based
4 on the special study I described earlier.

5 **Q: How did you determine the particular type and size of facility for each plant**
6 **account that should be attributed to each of the Company's customer**
7 **groups?**

8 A: Based on its historical installation and operating experience, the Company has
9 established engineering and operational standards which enabled me to directly
10 identify the typical size and type of service line by customer group. With regard
11 to meters and industrial M&R station equipment, the Company was able to
12 conduct a detailed computer analysis of data contained in its customer information
13 system that identified the type and size of meter for each customer it serves. This
14 analysis also was used to determine the type and size of equipment, by customer
15 class, for house regulators and to assign the installation costs of meters and house
16 regulators to specific customer classes.

17 **Q: Please describe the method used to allocate reserve for depreciation and**
18 **depreciation expenses.**

19 A: These items were allocated by function in proportion to their associated plant
20 accounts.

21 **Q: How did the study allocate distribution-related operation and maintenance**
22 **expenses?**

23 A: In general, these expenses were allocated on the basis of the cost allocation
24 methods used for the Company's corresponding plant accounts. A utility's
25 operation and maintenance expenses generally are thought to support the utility's
26 corresponding plant in service accounts. That is, the existence of particular plant
facilities necessitate the incurrence of cost (i.e., expenses) by the utility to operate

1 and maintain those facilities. As a result, the allocation basis used to allocate a
2 particular plant account will be the same basis as used to allocate the
3 corresponding expense account. For example, Account No. 893, Meters and
4 House Regulator Expenses, is allocated on the same basis as its corresponding
5 plant accounts, Account No. 381 – Meters and Account No. 383 – House
6 Regulators. With the Company's detailed analyses supporting its assignment of
7 plant in service components, where feasible, it was deemed appropriate to rely
8 upon those results in allocating related expenses in view of the overall conceptual
9 acceptability of such an approach.

10 **Q: How did the study allocate purchased gas expenses?**

11 A: The Company's proposed cost of service study contains a Purchased Gas
12 Subreport which disaggregates purchased gas costs into demand and commodity
13 cost components to facilitate the analysis and allocation of these costs. Included
14 in this cost category are the fixed costs of pipeline capacity, supply reservation
15 charges, the pipeline storage costs for peaking capacity and storage capacity, and
16 the pipeline transportation charges for peak demand and seasonal demand. The
17 commodity related costs include contract commodity and spot market gas costs,
18 the net cost of gas injected into and withdrawn from storage, and the associated
19 fees for these services. The sums of the various cost components were
20 individually allocated to the Company's customer classes according to cost
21 responsibility (i.e., using design peak demands, winter season sales and annual
22 sales).

23 **Q: Please describe the methods used to allocate demand-related gas costs.**

24 A: Referring to the Gas Cost Sub-Report contained in Exhibit RAF-3, supply
25 reservation charges were allocated in a manner which recognizes the reasons why
26 the Company incurs such charges and how the various contracts fit into its overall

1 gas supply portfolio. Reservation charges are paid by the Company to ensure that
2 specific levels of gas supplies are available on a daily basis. For its annual
3 contracts, although the Company is assured of supply certainty throughout the
4 year through the payment of such charges, that certainty is most critical in the
5 winter months and on extreme peak days. The modified Peak and Average
6 method reflects this planning consideration by using, based on the Company's
7 annual sales load factor, a combination of peak day demands and annual sales in
8 deriving the allocation percentages. For winter contracts, the reservation charges
9 were allocated on a winter seasonal basis. Firm transportation demand charges
10 related to pipeline supplies were allocated using the modified Peak and Average
11 method and storage-related charges were allocated on a seasonal basis. Finally,
12 peaking supply-related charges were allocated on a peak day demand basis.

13 **Q: How were variable or commodity-related gas costs allocated?**

14 A: Variable gas costs were allocated on an annual sales or winter sales basis
15 depending on the nature of each supply resource described in the listing of
16 resources in Exhibit RAF-3.

17 **Q: Why is it appropriate that load factor be reflected in the development of an**
18 **allocation method that can be used to allocate an LDC's gas supply-related**
19 **costs?**

20 A: The optimal mix of supply and capacity related resources required to serve a
21 particular customer or group of customers served by an LDC depends directly
22 upon its annual load factor. For the Company, its system load factor has a direct
23 bearing on the mix of firm gas supply and capacity resources available to serve its
24 peak day requirements.

1 **Q: If the Company's annual load factor increased, would its mix of firm gas**
2 **supply and capacity resources change?**

3 A: Yes, it would. The Company would in all likelihood increase its relative level of
4 base-load resources compared to its level of seasonal and peaking resources. The
5 modified Peak and Average method proposed by the Company recognizes load
6 factor directly in its classification and allocation of gas supply and capacity
7 resources.

8 **Q: How have you computed the Company's system load factor for purposes of**
9 **applying the modified Peak and Average method to the allocation of certain**
10 **purchased gas expenses?**

11 A: The modified Peak and Average method was computed using a sales load factor
12 of 32,4% rather than a gas throughput-based load factor to appropriately exclude
13 the Company's end-use transportation service from the calculations.

14 **Q: How did the study allocate administrative and general expenses?**

15 A: The study allocated these expenses on a specific account-by-account basis rather
16 than on an aggregate basis. Specifically, administrative and general expenses of a
17 utility typically pertain to the following expense categories: (1) labor; (2) plant;
18 and (3) combined. In the filed cost of service studies, I was able to relate each of
19 its administrative and general accounts to one of the above-stated categories.
20 These categories were then used as a basis to establish an appropriate allocation
21 factor for each account.

22 **Q: How did the study allocate taxes other than income taxes?**

23 A: The study allocated these expenses in a manner to reflect the specific cost
24 causative factors associated with the Company's particular tax expense categories.
25 Specifically, these taxes can be cost classified on the basis of the tax assessment
26 method established for each tax category (i.e., payroll, property, revenue, sales
 and expenses). As a result, taxes other than income taxes of a utility typically can

1 be grouped into the following categories: (1) labor; (2) plant; and (3) revenue. In
2 the cost of service study, I was able to relate each of its taxes other than income
3 taxes accounts to one of the above stated categories. These categories were then
4 used as a basis to establish an appropriate allocation factor for each tax account.

5 **Q: How were income taxes allocated to each customer class?**

6 A: Income taxes were allocated to each rate class based on its income before federal
7 income taxes. This approach made certain that the income tax assigned to each
8 rate class reflected the proper weighting of class revenues and previously allocated
9 expenses.

10 **Q: Please explain how the cost elements of transportation service were derived.**

11 A: The cost elements of transportation service were derived based on my review and
12 evaluation of the Company's: (1) plant and operating expenses necessary to
13 deliver gas to its transportation customers; (2) any administrative costs incurred
14 on behalf of its transportation customers; and (3) the plant and expenses related to
15 balancing its system throughput volumes on a daily basis.

16 Referring to the unit cost analysis presented in Exhibit RAF-3, all costs
17 located under the functional categories, "Transmission" and "Distribution,"
18 excluding certain specifically identified administrative costs, comprise the
19 Company's T & D delivery costs. The administrative costs reflected in the cost
20 study are identified in the allocation factor section of the cost studies under the
21 "Direct Allocators" category. These costs reflect activities including: contract
22 administration, gas volume control (e.g., volume scheduling, gas balancing, and
23 nominations management), gas measurement (e.g., reading and processing usage
24 data), special billing, and customer service support.

25 With regard to the costs of system balancing, it was necessary to review
26 the Company's gas supply and deliverability resources to determine the type and

1 level of resources relied upon to accommodate system gas imbalances on a daily
2 basis. These imbalances are created by the differences between the daily levels of
3 gas nominated and actually consumed by both the Company's sales and
4 transportation service customers. Based on my review of the Company's
5 resources and discussions with staff members involved in its gas supply area, it
6 was determined that the Jackson Prairie storage facility and its associated
7 redelivery service accommodates the daily gas imbalances created by the
8 Company's sales and transportation service customers.

9 VIII. USE OF JACKSON PRAIRIE FOR SYSTEM BALANCING

10 **Q: At this time, is the Company proposing any methodological refinements to**
11 **the allocation of Jackson Prairie storage costs for system balancing**
12 **purposes?**

13 A: Yes. The Jackson Prairie storage facility serves both seasonal supply and system
14 balancing functions. As discussed below in more detail, the Company is
15 proposing to more accurately reflect the use of Jackson Prairie for system
16 balancing purposes. The Company has an obligation to customers to mitigate
17 charges imposed by Northwest Pipeline for exceeding the three-percent tolerance
18 band required during peak periods and on other occasions when a pipeline
19 entitlement is imposed. As a result, the system balancing function of Jackson
20 Prairie is a necessary, separate function of the storage facilities and should be
21 identified separately and to the full extent of its use for this function.

22 **Q: Please describe the method developed for use in the Company's previous**
23 **system balancing study and the resulting percentage allocation.**

24 A: The methodology employed in Docket No. UG-940814 made an assumption that
25 transportation (customer-owned gas) and system sales imbalances would offset
26 each other, and that actual nominations of Jackson Prairie were for supply, when
they could have been for both supply and system balancing. The net pipeline

1 imbalance (system sales and customer-owned gas) was treated as additive to the
2 actual Jackson Prairie nominations for purposes of determining the system
3 balancing percentage use of the storage facility. If there were no scheduled
4 storage injections or withdrawals for a given day, the implied use of the storage
5 facility for system balancing was 100% on that day. Likewise, if the net pipeline
6 imbalance was less than +/- 3 percent, then there was no implied system
7 balancing. Applying this method to the test year, the use of the Jackson Prairie
8 facility for system balancing would be 9.36 percent.

9 **Q. Please explain why you are recommending a refinement to this method?**

10 A: The assumption in the previous method that allows transportation (customer-
11 owned gas) and system sales imbalances to offset one another assumes that the
12 Company's gas dispatching personnel would have had prior knowledge of these
13 imbalances in order for the storage nominations during the gas day to relate only
14 to system supply. In practice, the size and direction (short or long) of these
15 imbalances are not known in advance of the gas day and vary randomly in the
16 same or opposing directions throughout the gas day. The storage nominations
17 during the gas day are a function of the day's expected system supply requirements
18 and as a response to the imbalance conditions at the time of the nomination. The
19 contrasting movement of the transportation and sales imbalances is illustrated in
20 the diagram, Daily Use of Jackson Prairie, on page 1 of Exhibit RAF-7). The
21 diagram compares these separate imbalances with the Jackson Prairie daily
22 storage activity.

1 **Q: Please describe the Company's proposed method for calculating the system**
2 **balancing function of Jackson Prairie and the resulting allocation**
3 **percentage.**

4 A: The Company's alternative method for determining the portion of Jackson Prairie
5 used for system balancing calculates the absolute value of the transportation
6 (customer-owned gas) and system sales imbalances outside of the 3 percent
7 pipeline tolerance range. The transportation and sales imbalances are not allowed
8 to offset each other, since on any given day the respective imbalances may be
9 tracking with or against each other. The storage facility must be dispatched to
10 handle either condition throughout the gas day. This revised method determines
11 the imputed sales supply use of the storage facility by subtracting the absolute
12 value of the transportation and sales imbalances from the actual Jackson Prairie
13 use for the gas day. In other words, what was not used to balance the system was
14 used for system supply. The comparison of the absolute values of the
15 transportation and supply imbalances to the actual Jackson Prairie use is
16 illustrated on the diagram appearing on page 2 of Exhibit RAF-7. The result of
17 the application of this revised method of determining the balancing use of Jackson
18 Prairie storage is 19.48 percent.

19 **Q: Do you believe that this refined method for determining the portion of**
20 **Jackson Prairie dedicated to system balancing is appropriate?**

21 A: Yes. Because it does not attribute advance knowledge of the imbalance
22 conditions of the various elements of daily system throughput, this refined method
23 more reasonably captures the true nature of the system balancing function of
24 Jackson Prairie storage.

25
26

1 **IX. RESULTS OF THE COMPANY'S COST OF SERVICE**
2 **STUDY**

3 **Q: Please discuss the results of the cost of service study filed by the Company.**

4 A: Referring to Exhibit RAF-3, the following results at present rates are indicated:

- 5 1. The residential service rate schedules (Rate Schedules 23 and 24) exhibit
6 the lowest rate of return of all the Company's major rate classes.
- 7 2. The firm commercial and industrial heating class exhibit a higher than
8 average rate of return.
- 9 3. The commercial and industrial high load factor class (Rate Schedule 41)
10 exhibits a higher than average rate of return.
- 11 4. The interruptible sales service rate schedules (Rate Schedules 85, 86, and
12 87) exhibit the highest rates of return of all the Company's major rate
13 classes.
- 14 5. The transportation rate schedule (Rate Schedule 57) exhibits a higher than
15 average rate of return.
- 16 6. The special transport contract rate schedules (Rate Schedules 99, 199, and
17 299) exhibit a higher than average rate of return.

18 **Q: How can cost of service study results such as these provide guidelines for rate**
19 **design?**

20 A: Results of a cost of service study provide cost guidelines for use in evaluating
21 class revenue levels and class rate structures. With regard to customer class
22 revenue levels, the rate of return results show that certain rate classes are being
23 charged rates that recover less than their indicated costs of service. Obviously,
24 because this condition exists, rates for other customer classes provide for recovery
25 of more than the indicated costs of serving these other rate classes. By adjusting
26 rates in accordance with the cost study, customer class revenue levels can be

1 brought closer in line with the indicated costs of service resulting in movement of
2 rate class rates of return toward the system average rate of return and resulting in
3 rates that are more in line with the cost of providing service.

4 Concerning cost justification of rates within each customer class, the
5 classified costs, as allocated to each class of service in the cost study, provide cost
6 information that can be of assistance in determining the need for changes in the
7 relative levels of demand, customer and commodity rate block charges.

8 **Q: Please explain how the Unit Cost Analysis presented in Exhibit RAF-3 was**
9 **prepared.**

10 A: Our computer model extracts the functionalized, classified and allocated expenses
11 and rate base data for each class of service and applies the system average rate of
12 return to the allocated rate base to determine the required net income. This amount
13 is then grossed up to account for the income and general tax related revenue
14 responsibilities. The sum of the expense related revenue requirement and the rate
15 base related revenue requirement yield the total revenue requirement for each
16 component of cost at the system average rate of return. The computer model
17 makes this calculation for each of the various cost components (i.e., the customer,
18 demand and commodity portions of the production, storage, transmission and
19 distribution functional categories.) The summary total of these calculations is
20 shown in Exhibit RAF-3. It should be noted that a monthly customer cost is
21 calculated for each customer class, as well as unit commodity and demand costs.

22 **Q: Can these unit costs analyses results be used for rate design?**

23 A: Yes, if three part rates (i.e., customer, demand and commodity) were set at the
24 unit cost levels, the Company's operating expenses and rate of return on
25 investment based its most recently completed rate proceeding would be recovered.
26 However, restructuring an LDC's rates in this manner is usually not possible

1 because of adverse customer impact in terms of revenue allocation and the
2 administrative burdens of three part rates, particularly for smaller customers. At
3 best, this type of rate structure could be phased-in by the LDC over a reasonable
4 future period of time. The unit cost analyses do provide valuable unbundled cost
5 information for the design of portions of the tariffs. One of the most obvious
6 applications is the use of unbundled cost information for establishing cost-based
7 customer charges. The unit cost analysis could also be used to establish separately
8 metered contract demand charges where the cost of demand metering can be
9 justified.

10 **Q: Have you prepared a more detailed analysis of the Company's customer-**
11 **related costs of providing service?**

12 A: Yes, I have. Exhibit RAF-6 provides details of the customer-related rate base and
13 expenses, as allocated in the Company's cost of service study. Customer-related
14 revenue requirements include operating expenses such as meter reading, customer
15 accounting and billing, customer service, and certain distribution operating and
16 maintenance costs, as well as the customer-classified A&G expenses. They also
17 include the return on net rate base allowed on the Company's meters, services, and
18 other distribution and general plant investment that have been classified as
19 customer-related. The resulting monthly customer-related revenue requirement
20 for the Company's residential service customers is \$18.66 per customer; for C&I
21 heating service customers, it is \$34.38 per customer; for C&I high-load factor
22 service customers, it is \$425.94 per customer, and for Interruptible service (Rates
23 85, 86, and 87) it is \$451.33, \$457.07, and \$554.62 per customer, respectively.

1 X. CONCLUDING REMARKS

2 Q: Do you have any concluding remarks?

3 A: Yes, I do. The Company must utilize a cost allocation methodology which
4 reasonably and equitably establishes the costs of providing service to its
5 customers, so that both the Company and its customers can be in a position to
6 make reasoned energy-related decisions based on gas rate levels which are
7 consistent with and representative of the prevailing economics and cost structure
8 of the energy marketplace.

9 The Company continues to rely upon the modified Peak and Average
10 methodology for use in its cost of service study. In my opinion, the methodology
11 strikes an appropriate balance between the contrasting methodologies that can be
12 presented by other cost analysts, while at the same time serving as a vehicle to aid
13 the Company in the development of its proposed rates. The methodology does not
14 abandon a throughput-based approach, but rather builds upon the most appropriate
15 approach for the Company today. The Company's proposed cost allocation
16 methodology *only* relies upon throughput-based allocation factors, in conjunction
17 with other appropriate allocation factors, where plant investment is deemed to be
18 common or joint-use in nature (e.g., transmission and distribution mains). Where
19 the Company can directly identify specific costs to serve customers, those costs
20 are directly assigned to customers rather than having to use one or more common
21 allocation factors to assign those costs.

22 The Company's method recognizes the true nature and characteristics of an
23 LDC's costs by classifying and allocating certain common costs through the use of
24 the Company's annual system load factor. In my judgment, use of the Company's
25 system load factor to determine this cost split is a sound approach and provides
26 this Commission with a rational basis to recognize both the system design

1 characteristics of an LDC (i.e., cost incurrence principles) and system utilization
2 concepts.

3 Overall, it is my judgment that the Company's proposed cost allocation
4 methodology will serve to implement the Commission's costing principles in
5 *today's* gas industry environment.

6 **Q: Mr. Feingold, does that complete your prefiled direct testimony?**

7 A: Yes, it does.

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10 [BA013250091]

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EXHIBIT NO. _____ (RAF-2)
DOCKET NO. _____
2001 PSE RATE CASE
WITNESS: RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD

BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

Respondent.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD
ON BEHALF OF PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

1 **PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.**

2 **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD**

3
4 **EDUCATION**

- 5 • Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Washington
6 University, St. Louis.
7 • Master of Science degree in Financial Management from Polytechnic Institute of
8 New York

9 **PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT**

- 10 1997 – Present Navigant Consulting, Inc.
11 Metzler & Associates
12 Managing Director, Regulation & Litigation Support Practice
- 13 1990 – 1997 R.J. Rudden Associates, Inc.
14 Vice President and Director
- 15 1985 – 1990 Price Waterhouse
16 Director, Gas Regulatory Services
17 Public Utilities Industry Services Group
- 18 1978 – 1985 Stone & Webster Management Consultants, Inc.
19 Executive Consultant
20 Regulatory Services Division
- 21 1973 – 1978 Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
22 Staff Engineer and Utility Rate Specialist
23 Design Engineering Division

24 **PRESENTATION OF EXPERT TESTIMONY**

- 25 • Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
26 • British Columbia Utilities Commission (Canada)
• California Public Utilities Commission
• Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control
• Delaware Public Service Commission
• Georgia Public Service Commission
• Illinois Commerce Commission
• Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission
• Manitoba Public Utilities Board (Canada)
• Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities

- 1 • Michigan Public Service Commission
- 2 • Montana Public Service Commission
- 3 • New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
- 4 • New Jersey Board of Public Utilities
- 5 • New York Public Service Commission
- 6 • Ohio Public Utilities Commission
- 7 • Oklahoma Corporation Commission
- 8 • Ontario Energy Board (Canada)
- 9 • Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
- 10 • Philadelphia Gas Commission
- 11 • Quebec Natural Gas Board (Canada)
- 12 • Vermont Public Service Board
- 13 • Virginia State Corporation Commission
- 14 • Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission

15 **EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES**

- 16 • Chairman, Rate Training Subcommittee, Rate and Strategic Planning Committee of the American Gas Association
- 17 • Seminar organizer and co-moderator at the American Gas Association, "Workshop on Unbundling and LDC Restructuring," July 1995
- 18 • Course organizer and speaker at the annual industry course, American Gas Association – Gas Rate Fundamentals Course, University of Wisconsin – Madison, 1985 – 2001
- 19 • Course organizer and speaker at the annual industry course, American Gas Association – Advanced Regulatory Seminar, University of Maryland – College Park, 1987 –1992
- 20 • Co-founder, course director and instructor in the annual course, "Principles of Gas Utility Rate Regulation" sponsored by The Center for Professional Advancement 1982-1987
- 21 • Contributing Author of the Fourth Edition of "Gas Rate Fundamentals," American Gas Association, 1987
- 22 • Organizer, Editor, and Contributing Author of the upcoming Fifth Edition of "Gas Rate Fundamentals," American Gas Association (in progress)

23 **PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

- 24 • "Can a California Energy Crisis Occur Elsewhere?" American Gas Association, Rate and Strategic Issues Committee Meeting, March 2001.
- 25 • "Downstream Unbundling: Opportunities and Risks," American Gas Association, Rate and Strategic Issues Committee Meeting, April 2000.
- 26 • "Form Follows Function: Which Corporate Strategy Will Predominate in the New Millennium?" American Gas Association 1999 Workshop on Regulation and Business Strategy for Utilities in the New Millennium, August 1999

- 1 • "Total Energy Providers: Key Structural and Regulatory Issues," American Gas
- 2 Association, Rate and Strategic Issues Committee Meeting, April 1999.
- 3 • "The Gas Industry: A View of the Next Decade," National Association of
- 4 Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) Staff Subcommittee on Accounts,
- 5 1998 Fall Meeting, September 1998.
- 6 • "Regulatory Responses to the Changing Gas Industry," Canadian Gas Association,
- 7 1998 Corporate Challenges Conference, September 1998
- 8 • "Trends in Performance-Based Pricing," American Gas Association Financial
- 9 Analysts Conference, May 1998.
- 10 • "Unbundling – An Opportunity or Threat for Customer Care?" presented at the
- 11 American Gas Association/Edison Electric Institute Customer Services
- 12 Conference and Exposition, May 1998.
- 13 • "Experiences in Electric and Gas Unbundling," presented at the 1997 Indiana
- 14 Energy Conference, December 1997.
- 15 • "Asset and Resource Migration Strategies," presented at the Strategic Marketing
- 16 For The New Marketplace Conference sponsored by Electric Utility Consultants,
- 17 Inc. and Metzler & Associates, November 1997.
- 18 • "The Status of Unbundling in the Gas Industry," presented at the American Gas
- 19 Association Finance Committee, March 1997.
- 20 • Seminar organizer and co-moderator at the American Gas Association,
- 21 "Workshop on Unbundling and LDC Restructuring," July 1995.
- 22 • "State Regulatory Update," presented at the American Gas Association – Financial
- 23 Forum, May 1995.
- 24 • "Gas Pricing Strategies and Related Rate Considerations," presented before the
- 25 Rate Committee of the American Gas Association, April 1995.
- 26 • "Avoided Cost Concepts and Management Considerations," presented before the
- Workshop on Avoided Costs in a Post-636 Industry, sponsored by the Gas
- Research Institute and Wisconsin Center for Demand-Side Research, June 1994.
- "DSM Program Selection Under Order No. 636: Effect of Changing Gas Avoided
- Costs," presented before the NARUC-DOE Fifth National Integrated Resource
- Planning Conference, Kalispell, MT, May 1994.
- "A Review of Recent Gas IRP Activities," presented before the Rate Committee
- of the American Gas Association, March 1994.
- Seminar organizer and co-moderator at the American Gas Association seminar,
- "The Statue of Integrated Resource Planning," December 1993.
- "Industry Restructuring Issues for LDCs, presented before the American Gas
- Association–Advanced Regulatory Seminar, University of Maryland, 1993-1996.
- "Acquiring and Using Gas Storage Services," presented before the 8th
- Cogeneration and Independent Power Congress and Natural Gas Purchasing '93,
- June 1993.
- "Capitalizing on the New Relationships Arising Between the Various Industry
- Segments: Understanding How You Can Play in Today's Market," presented

1 before the Institute of Gas Technology's Natural Gas Markets and Marketing
2 Conference, February 1993.

- 3 • "The Level Playing Field for Fuel Substitution (or, the Quest for the Holy Grail),"
4 presented before the 4th Natural Gas Industry Forum – Integrated Resource
5 Planning: The Contribution of Natural Gas, October 1992.
- 6 • "Key Methodological Considerations in Developing Gas Long-Run Avoided
7 Costs," presented before the NARUC-DOE Fourth National Integrated Resource
8 Planning Conference, September 1992.
- 9 • "Mega-NOPR Impacts on Transportation Arrangements for IPPs," co-presented
10 before the 7th Cogeneration and Independent Power Congress and Natural Gas
11 Purchasing '92, June 1992.
- 12 • "Cost Allocation in Utility Rate Proceedings," presented before the Ohio State Bar
13 Association – Annual Convention, May 1992.
- 14 • "The Long and the Short of LRACs," presented before the Natural Gas Least-Cost
15 Planning Conference April 1992, sponsored by Washington Gas Company and the
16 District of Columbia Energy office.
- 17 • Seminar organizer and moderator at the American Gas Association seminar,
18 "Integrated Resource Planning: A Primer," December 1991.
- 19 • Session organizer and moderator on integrated resource planning issues at the
20 American Gas Association Annual Conference, October 1991.
- 21 • "Strategic Perspectives on the Rate Design Process," presented before the
22 Executive Enterprises, Inc. conference, "Natural Gas Pricing and Rate Design in
23 the 1990s," September 1990.
- 24 • "Distribution Company Transportation Rates," presented before the American Gas
25 Association–Advanced Regulatory Seminar, University of Maryland 1987-1992.
- 26 • "Design of Distribution Company Gas Rates," presented before the American Gas
Association – Gas Rate Fundamentals Course, University of Wisconsin, 1985-
1998.
- Seminar organizer, speaker and panel moderator at the American Gas Association
seminar, "Natural Gas Strategies: Integrating Supply Planning, Marketing and
Pricing," 1988-1990.
- "Local Distribution Company Bypass – Issues and Industry Responses,"
(Co-author) June 1989.
- "So You Think You Know Your Customers!," presented before the American Gas
Association–Annual Marketing Conference, April 1990.
- "Gas Transportation Rate Considerations – A Review of Gas Transportation
Practices Based on the Results of the A.G.A. Annual Pricing Strategies Survey,"
presented before the Rate Committee of the American Gas Association, April
1985-1991.
- "Market-Based Pricing Strategies – Targeted Rates to Meet Competition,"
presented before the American Gas Association Annual Marketing Conference,
March 1989.

- 1 • "Gas Rate Restructuring Issues – Targeted Prices to Meet Competition," presented
2 before the Fifteenth Annual Rate Symposium, University of Missouri, February
3 1989.
- 4 • "Gas Transportation Rates – An Integral Part of a Competitive Marketplace,"
5 *American Gas Association, Financial Quarterly Review*, Summer 1987.
- 6 • "Gas Distributor Rate Design Responses to the Competitive Fuel Situation,"
7 *American Gas Association, Financial Quarterly Review*, October 1983.
- 8 • "Demand-Commodity Rates: A Second Best Response to the Competitive Fuel
9 Situation," presented before the American Gas Association, Ratemaking Options
10 Forum, September 1983.
- 11 • Cofounder, course director and instructor in the annual course, "Principles of Gas
12 Utility Rate Regulation" sponsored by The Center for Professional Advancement
13 1982-1987.
- 14 • "Current Rate and Regulatory Issues," presented before the National Fuel Gas
15 Regulatory Seminar, July 1986.

16 **AFFILIATIONS AND HONORS**

- 17 • Financial Associate Member, American Gas Association
- 18 • Member, Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers
- 19 • Member, Rate and Strategic Planning Committee of the American Gas
20 Association
- 21 • Listed in Who's Who of Emerging Leaders in America, 1989-1992

22 (as of September 2001)

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EXHIBIT NO. _____ (RAF-3)
DOCKET NO. _____
2001 PSE RATE CASE
WITNESS: RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD

BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

Respondent.

EXHIBIT TO DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD
ON BEHALF OF PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

EXHIBIT NO. _____ (RAF-4)
DOCKET NO. _____
2001 PSE RATE CASE
WITNESS: RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD

BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

Respondent.

EXHIBIT TO DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD
ON BEHALF OF PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

EXHIBIT NO. _____ (RAF-5)
DOCKET NO. _____
2001 PSE RATE CASE
WITNESS: RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD

BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

Respondent.

EXHIBIT TO DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD
ON BEHALF OF PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

EXHIBIT NO. _____ (RAF-6)
DOCKET NO. _____
2001 PSE RATE CASE
WITNESS: RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD

BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

Respondent.

EXHIBIT TO DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD
ON BEHALF OF PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

EXHIBIT NO. _____ (RAF-7)
DOCKET NO. _____
2001 PSE RATE CASE
WITNESS: RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD

BEFORE THE
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

Respondent.

EXHIBIT TO DIRECT TESTIMONY OF RUSSELL A. FEINGOLD
ON BEHALF OF PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.