BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND) DOCKET UE-120277
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)
)
Complainant,)
) NOTICE OF PREHEARING
V.) CONFERENCE
) (Set for May 31, 2012, at 1:30 p.m.)
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.)
)
Respondent.)
)
)

- On February 29, 2012, Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE or Company), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) proposed tariff revisions to its electric service Schedule 95A-Federal Incentive Tracker to become effective April 1, 2012. The purpose of the filing is to pass-through interest on the unamortized balance of United States Treasury Department grant (Treasury Grant) received on February 23, 2010, under Section 1603 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), as amended.
- The Commission's regulatory staff (Commission Staff or Staff) presented this matter at the Commission's regularly scheduled Open Meeting on March 29, 2012. The Commission agreed that the Open Meeting should be recessed with respect to this docket to allow an opportunity for PSE, Staff and other interested persons¹ to file briefs addressing the legal and policy issues presented by PSE's filing. PSE filed its Initial Brief on April 17, 2012. Staff and ICNU filed their Response Briefs on May 4, 2012, and PSE filed its Reply Brief on May 15, 2012.

¹ The Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities (ICNU) made its interest known during the Open Meeting on March 29, 2012.

- The Commission reconvened to hear further from these interested persons on May 24, 2012. The Commission proposed, and the interested persons agreed to, suspension of the tariff filing to allow an opportunity for the legal and policy issues to be resolved, treating the previously filed briefs as cross-motions for summary determination. The Commission entered Order 01 on May 24, 2012, suspending the tariff filing.
- 4 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under RCW Title 80, and has legal authority to regulate the rates, services, and practices of electric utilities. The statutes that apply to this matter include RCW 80.01, RCW 80.04, and RCW 80.28 relating to rates, including but not limited to RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04.020, RCW 80.28.020, RCW 80.28.030, RCW 80.28.070, RCW 80.28.090, and RCW 80.28.100. The rules that apply to this matter include those within WAC 480-07 and WAC 480-100.
- ⁵ The Commission will hear this matter under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), particularly Part IV of RCW 34.05 relating to adjudications. The provisions of the APA that relate to this proceeding include, but are not limited to RCW 34.05.413, RCW 34.05.422, RCW 34.05.431, RCW 34.05.440, RCW 34.05.449, and RCW 34.05.452. The Commission will also follow its procedural rules in WAC 480-07 in this proceeding.
- 6 The Commission finds there is good cause to hear this matter on shortened notice. See WAC 480-07-440(1)(a).
- 7 THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That it will hold a prehearing conference in this matter at 1:30 p.m., on Thursday, May 31, 2012, in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.
- 8 The purpose of the prehearing conference is to consider any requests for intervention and to establish dates for any further briefing of the issues. The Commission anticipates that it will be appropriate to resolve this matter on an expedited basis.
- 9 **INTERVENTION:** Persons who wish to intervene should file a petition to intervene in writing at least three business days before the date of the prehearing conference.

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See WAC 480-07-355(a).² The Commission will consider oral petitions to intervene during the conference, but strongly prefers written petitions to intervene. Party representatives must file a notice of appearance with the Commission no later than the business day before the conference. See WAC 480-07-345(2). Any party or witness in need of an interpreter or other assistance should fill out the form attached to this notice and return it to the Commission. The Commission will set the time and place for any evidentiary hearings at the prehearing conference, on the record of a later conference or hearing session, or by later written notice.

- 10 THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE that any party who fails to attend or participate in the prehearing conference set by this Notice, or any other stage of this proceeding, may be held in default under RCW 34.05.440 and WAC 480-07-450.
- 11 The names and mailing addresses of all known parties and their known representatives are as follows:

Complainant:	Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Richard Hemstad Building 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160
Representative:	Robert D. Cedarbaum Assistant Attorney General 1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 40128 Olympia, WA 98504-0128 (360) 664-1188 <u>bcedarba@utc.wa.gov</u>

² Inasmuch as ICNU already is participating in this docket, there is no need for the organization to file a written petition to intervene. ICNU's representative, however, should file a notice of appearance.

Respondent:	Tom DeBoer Director, Federal and State Regulatory Affairs Puget Sound Energy, Inc. P.O. Box 97034 PSE-08N Bellevue, WA 98009-9734 (425) 462-3495
Representatives:	Sheree Strom Carson Donna Barnett Perkins Coie LLP 10885 NE Fourth Street, Suite 700 Bellevue, WA 98004-5579 (425) 635-1400 <u>scarson@perkinscoie.com</u> <u>dbarnett@perkinscoie.com</u>
Public Counsel:	Simon J. ffitch Office of the Attorney General 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104-3188 (206) 389-2055 <u>simonf@atg.wa.gov</u>
ICNU:	Irion Sanger Davison Van Cleve, P.C. 333 S.W. Taylor, Suite 400 Portland, OR 97204 503-241-7242 <u>dvc@dvclaw.com</u>

- 12 The Commissioners of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and Administrative Law Judge Dennis J. Moss, from the Commission's Administrative Law Division, will preside during this proceeding.
- 13 The Attorney General has designated Simon ffitch of the Office of the Public Counsel to represent the public. You may use the Commission's address, shown below, for contacting Public Counsel, or you may contact Public Counsel directly by writing or calling the address or telephone number listed below.

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14 The Commission will give parties notice of any other procedural phase of the proceeding in writing or on the record, as appropriate during this proceeding.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective May 24, 2012.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER Executive Director and Secretary

Inquiries may be addressed to:

Executive Director and Secretary Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission Richard Hemstad Building 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250 (360) 664-1160 or - Public Counsel Section Office of the Attorney General 800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104-3188 (206) 464-7744

<u>NOTICE</u>

Hearing facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Smoking is prohibited. If limited English-speaking, hearing-impaired parties or witnesses are involved in a hearing and need an interpreter, a qualified interpreter will be appointed at no cost to the party or witness.

If you need an interpreter, or have other special needs, please fill out this form and return it to Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission, Attention: David W. Danner, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW, P. O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250. (PLEASE SUPPLY ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION)

Docket :	
Case Name:	
Hearing Date:	Hearing Location:
Primary Language:	
Hearing Impaired (Yes)	(No)
Do you need a certified sign languag	ge interpreter:
Visual	Tactile
Other type of assistance needed:	
English-speaking person who can be	contacted if there are questions:
Name:Address:	
Phone No.: ()	