

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET UE-070565
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	ORDER 06
Complainant,)	
)	GRANTING ICNU’S MOTION FOR
v.)	LEAVE TO FILE SUPPLEMENTAL
)	TESTIMONY; SUSPENDING
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,)	PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
)	
Respondent.)	
.....)	

MEMORANDUM

- 1 Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE), filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-60 on March 20, 2007. This power cost only rate case (PCORC) filing is a proposal by PSE to increase electric rates to recover additional power costs and costs associated with the acquisition of a 277 MW gas-fired combined cycle electric generation facility in Goldendale, Washington.
- 2 PSE’s filing included the Company’s direct case in the form of testimony and exhibits. The Commission conducted a prehearing conference on April 11, 2007, before Administrative Law Judge Dennis J. Moss. The purpose of the conference, among other things, was to establish a procedural schedule including dates for response testimony by Commission regulatory Staff and intervenors (June 15, 2007) and rebuttal testimony by the company (June 29, 2007).
- 3 On June 27, 2007, ICNU submitted its Motion for Leave To File Supplemental Testimony and To Modify Procedural Schedule. ICNU included in its submission the narrative testimony and exhibits that are the subject matter of its motion.
- 4 On June 28, 2007, PSE submitted its Notice of Settlement and Request for Stay of Proceedings. PSE’s Notice states that Commission Staff, ICNU, Public Counsel, and

PSE will use their best efforts to file a full settlement agreement on Tuesday, July 3, 2007 with supporting testimony to be filed thereafter. PSE requests that the procedural schedule be suspended to recognize that it will not be filing rebuttal testimony either as currently scheduled or on the date ICNU proposes via its Motion. PSE, on behalf of the settling parties also requests that the settlement agreement be presented to the Commission for adoption and approval on July 23, 2007, the date already set for commencement of evidentiary hearings.

- 5 ICNU states as the basis for its Motion the organization's identification of an additional issue after it filed response testimony on June 15, 2007. ICNU describes the issue as one related to the assumptions in PSE's Aurora power cost model about the capacity of the Colstrip plant. ICNU states that the procedural schedule which contemplates review of the Company's filing within four or five months made it difficult to analyze fully all potential issues by the time its response testimony was due. ICNU argues it promotes the Commission's interest in having a complete record to accept ICNU's supplemental testimony for filing. Finally, ICNU argues there will be no prejudice to PSE given that ICNU proposes only to change the date for PSE to file its rebuttal testimony from June 29, 2007, to July 2, 2007, and does not propose to change the hearing date.
- 6 According to ICNU's Motion, neither PSE nor Staff objects to its requests. Public Counsel, the only other party in this proceeding has not responded to ICNU concerning this matter, according to ICNU.
- 7 There is good cause to grant ICNU's request for leave to file supplemental testimony. The parties may wish to include this testimony as part of the record, if appropriate in light of their settlement agreement.
- 8 As requested in PSE's Notice of Settlement, it is appropriate to suspend the procedural schedule. The Commission will issue notice of the date for a settlement hearing, as appropriate. The preferred date is Wednesday, July 25, 2007, considering that a public comment hearing session is already scheduled for that evening.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT:

- 9 (1) ICNU's Motion for Leave To File Supplemental Testimony is granted.
- 10 (2) PSE's request that the procedural schedule be suspended is granted.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective June 29, 2007.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DENNIS J. MOSS
Administrative Law Judge