

February 21, 2013

**NOTICE CONVENING STATUS CONFERENCE
(Set for February 25, 2013, 10:00 a.m.)**

Re: *In the Matter of the Petition of Puget Sound Energy, Inc. for Approval of a Power Purchase Agreement for Acquisition of Cost Transition Power, as Defined in RCW 80.80.010, and the Recovery of Related Acquisition Costs, Docket UE-121373*

In the Matter of the Petition of Puget Sound Energy, Inc. and NW Energy Coalition For an Order Authorizing PSE to Implement Electric and Natural Gas Decoupling Mechanisms and to Record Accounting Entries Associated with the Mechanisms, Dockets UE-121697 and UG-121705

In the Matter of Puget Sound Energy, Inc., WN U-60, Tariff G, Electric Service, Advice No. 2013-01 and WN U-2, Natural Gas Service, Advice No. 2013-02, Dockets UE-130137 and UG-130138

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:

On August 20, 2012, Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a Petition for Approval of a Power Purchase Agreement for Acquisition of Cost Transition Power, as Defined in RCW 80.80.010, and the Recovery of Related Acquisition Costs (PPA Docket). The Commission entered its Final Order, Order 03, on January 9, 2013, granting PSE's petition for approval of the subject power purchase agreement. PSE filed its Petition for Reconsideration and Motion to Reopen the Record in this proceeding on January 23, 2013. The Commission set February 6, 2013, as the date for any Responses to PSE's petition and motion. On February 1, 2013, Commission Staff filed its Motion for a 30-Day Extension of Time to File such responses. The Commission granted Staff's motion, over the opposition of other parties, by Order 04, entered on February 5, 2013.

On October 25, 2012, PSE and NW Energy Coalition (collectively Petitioners) filed with the Commission a Petition for Decoupling Mechanism (Decoupling Dockets). The Decoupling Dockets are UE-121697 and UG-121705. The Petitioners request that the Commission issue an order authorizing PSE to implement an electric and natural gas decoupling mechanism, and to begin recording accounting entries associated with the mechanism, effective November 1, 2012. They also requested that the matter not be set for hearing. The Commission, consistent with this request, has continued to treat this matter a recessed open meeting docket.

On February 1, 2013, PSE filed with the Commission certain tariff revisions designed to increase rates for electrical services and decrease rates for natural gas services provided to customers in Washington. PSE describes the filing as an update to its electric and natural gas rates consistent with the expedited filing method proposed by the Commission's regulatory staff in PSE's 2011-2012 general rate case, Dockets UE-111048 and UG-111049 (consolidated).¹ The proposed tariff sheets that are a part of these ERF Dockets bear a stated effective date of April 1, 2013.

Neither the Decoupling Dockets nor the ERF Dockets have been established as adjudicative proceedings under RCW 34.05 and the Commission's procedural rules. The direct impact of the above-referenced Order 04, entered in the PPA Docket (*i.e.*, UE-121373), is limited to that proceeding. However, Staff's motion for an extension of time that the Commission granted in Order 04 implicates both the Decoupling Dockets and the ERF Dockets by suggesting the prospect of "a global resolution" that will include them, along with the PPA Docket. Today marks the 15th day of the 30 day continuance in Docket UE-121373, yet the Commission has heard nothing further concerning the status of discussions among the parties and persons who have expressed interest in one or more of the pending dockets.

The Commission finds it appropriate, therefore, to request a status report. We will convene an informal status conference to achieve this purpose and invite all parties and all persons interested in any of these three proceedings to participate.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That it will convene a status conference concerning Dockets UE-121373 (PPA Docket), UE-121697 and UG-121705 (Decoupling Dockets), and UE-130137 and UG-130138 (ERF Dockets) on Monday, February 25, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's main hearing room. The conference will be conducted before Administrative Law Judge Dennis J. Moss but

¹ This filing does not meet the criteria defining a "general rate case" in WAC 480-07-505(1). PSE refers to the filing as an Expedited Rate Filing (ERF) and we adopt this lexicon and acronym.

will be informal and will not be transcribed. Parties may participate via the Commission's teleconference bridge line: (360) 664-3846.

DENNIS J. MOSS
Administrative Law Judge