

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON  
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND  
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

Respondent

DOCKET UG-230968

NOTICE OF PREHEARING  
CONFERENCE

**(Set for January 30, 2024,  
at 1:30 p.m.)**

- 1 On November 22, 2023, Puget Sound Energy (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) proposed revisions to its rates under natural gas tariff Schedule WN U-2, Schedule 111, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Cap, and Invest Adjustment.
- 2 In this filing, PSE seeks to incorporate allowance costs and auction proceeds from the Climate Commitment Act (CCA), into Schedule 111 rates. Specifically, PSE seeks (1) to add new language to the tariff that would enable the Company to fund decarbonization projects by setting aside \$23 million of the Company's projected no cost allowances revenues; (2) and to update rates pertaining to amounts deferred from January 2023 through September 2023. The Company's proposed tariff revisions provide an effective date of January 1, 2024.
- 3 On December 19, 2023, PSE filed revised tariff sheets.
- 4 Commission staff (Staff) has reviewed the Company's tariff filing and recommends that the Commission suspend the matter and initiate an adjudication.
- 5 This matter came before the Commission at its December 21, 2023, open meeting. Staff updated its recommendation, recommending that the Commission suspend the tariff sheets filed by PSE on November 22, 2023, as revised on December 19, 2023, but allow the proposed rates to become effective on January 1, 2024, on an interim basis, subject to refund, pending the Commission's final determination in this Docket. The Commission heard additional comments from PSE, NWECA, EarthJustice, TEP, and AWEC.

6 On December 21, 2023, the Commission issued Order 01 Complaint and Order  
Suspending Tariff Revisions; Allowing Rates Subject to Later Review and Refund.

7 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under  
Title 80 RCW, and has legal authority to regulate natural gas companies. The statutes that  
apply to this matter include Chapters 80.01 RCW, 80.04 RCW, and 80.28 RCW relating  
to rates, including but not limited to RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04.020, and RCW  
80.28.020. The rules that apply to this matter include those within Chapters WAC 480-80  
and WAC 480-90, relating to natural gas companies.

8 The Commission will hear this matter under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA),  
particularly Part IV of Chapter 34.05 RCW 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.

9 The Commission finds there is good cause to hear this matter on shortened notice. *See*  
WAC 480-07-440(1)(a) and RCW 34.05.434.

10 **THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That it will hold a virtual prehearing  
conference in this matter at 1:30 p.m., January 30, 2024. To attend via Zoom, please  
[click here to join meeting](#).<sup>1</sup> To attend by phone, please call (253) 215-8782 and enter  
the Meeting ID: 899 7505 8473# and Passcode: 694456#.**

11 The purpose of the prehearing conference is to consider requests for intervention, resolve  
scheduling matters including establishing dates for distributing evidence, identify the  
issues in the proceeding, and determine other matters to assist the Commission in  
resolving the matter, as listed in WAC 480-07-430.

12 **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. *See*  
WAC 480-07-355(a). 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

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<sup>1</sup> <https://utc-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/89975058473?pwd=bH9cINXQlgKogHEj2gUJk2NfVFbRR6.1>

the prehearing conference, on the record of a later conference or hearing session, or by later written notice.

13 **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.**

14 The names and mailing addresses of all known parties and their known representatives are as follows:

Complainant: Washington Utilities and Transportation  
Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Representative: Nash Callaghan  
Office of the Attorney General  
Utilities and Transportation Division  
P.O. Box 40128  
Olympia, WA 98504-0128  
(360) 709-4830  
[nash.callaghan@atg.wa.gov](mailto:nash.callaghan@atg.wa.gov)

Respondent: Jon Piliaris  
Puget Sound Energy  
PO BOX 97034 PSE-08N  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9734  
Portland, OR 97232  
[jon.piliaris@pse.com](mailto:jon.piliaris@pse.com)

Representative: Donna Barnett  
10885 N.E. Fourth Street, Suite 700  
Bellevue, WA 98004-5579  
[dbarnett@perkinscoie.com](mailto:dbarnett@perkinscoie.com)

Public Counsel: Ann Paisner  
Lisa Gafken  
Assistant Attorneys General  
800 Fifth<sup>th</sup> Avenue STE 2000  
Seattle, WA 98104-3188  
[ann.paisner@atg.wa.gov](mailto:ann.paisner@atg.wa.gov)  
[lisa.gafken@atg.wa.gov](mailto:lisa.gafken@atg.wa.gov)

- 15 The Commissioners of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission and Administrative Law Michael Howard, from the Commission’s Administrative Law Division, will preside during this proceeding.<sup>2</sup>
- 16 The Attorney General has designated Ann Paisner, Lisa Gafken, and from the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington Attorney General’s Office (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.
- 17 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 Lacey, Washington, and effective January 8, 2024.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

KATHY HUNTER  
Acting Executive Director and Secretary

Inquiries may be addressed to:

Executive Director and Secretary  
Washington State Utilities and  
Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250  
(360) 664-1160

- or - Public Counsel Unit  
Office of the Attorney General  
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000  
Seattle, WA 98104-3188  
(206) 464-7744

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<sup>2</sup> Judge Howard can be reached by email at [michael.howard@utc.wa.gov](mailto:michael.howard@utc.wa.gov) or by phone at (360) 664-1139.

**NOTICE**

Hearings are accessible to persons with disabilities and persons who do not speak English as a first language. If limited English-speaking or 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 provide the information requested below via email to Paige Doyle, paralegal, at [paige.doyle@utc.wa.gov](mailto:paige.doyle@utc.wa.gov):

(PLEASE SUPPLY ALL REQUESTED INFORMATION)

Docket: \_\_\_\_\_

Case Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Hearing Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Hearing Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Language: \_\_\_\_\_

Hearing Impaired: (Yes) \_\_\_\_\_ (No) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need a certified sign language interpreter:

Visual \_\_\_\_\_ Tactile \_\_\_\_\_

Other type of assistance needed: \_\_\_\_\_