

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

In the Matter of the Petition of)	DOCKET NO. UG-040081
)	
ATLAS CASTINGS &)	ORDER NO. 01
TECHNOLOGY, CHEHALIS)	
FACILITY,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	ORDER GRANTING WAIVER
Seeking Waiver of Tariff Obligation)	OF TARIFF OBLIGATION
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On January 2, 2004, the Commission received a petition from Atlas Castings & Technology, Chehalis Facility (Atlas or the Petitioner), requesting the Commission grant a waiver of tariff obligation, allowing Atlas to switch from Puget Sound Energy’s Schedule No. 57, Distribution System Transportation Service (Firm and Interruptible), to Schedule No. 85, Interruptible Gas Service with Firm Option.
- 2 Puget’s tariff states in Section 4: Requirements for Alternate Fuel Capacity of Schedule 85 that Puget Sound Energy (PSE) will make service available under Schedule 85 to a customer without standby facilities only if that customer, of its own petition, has obtained a waiver of the requirement of standby facilities from this Commission.
- 3 Atlas states in its petition that the Petitioner can handle interruptions in the natural gas supply through changing techniques or work schedules. The Petitioner states that eighty percent of its work functions do not require natural gas to be performed and that those parts that require natural gas can be conducted at a later time or off loaded to a sister company in Tacoma that has a backup alternative fuel source on site.

4 Commission Staff reviewed the request and recommended granting Atlas' request for waiver of tariff obligation.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the state of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, rules, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, and transfers of public service companies, including gas companies. *RCW 80.01.040; Chapter 80.04 RCW and Chapter 80.28 RCW.*
- 6 (2) PSE is engaged in the business of providing gas services within the state of Washington and is a public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission under the provisions of Chapter 80.28 RCW.
- 7 (3) Atlas is a customer of PSE currently being served under the Company's Schedule No. 57, Distribution System Transportation Service (Firm and Interruptible). The Petitioner requests to be allowed to switch to Schedule No. 85, Interruptible Gas Service with Firm Option. Section 4: Requirements for Alternate Fuel Capacity of Schedule 85 states that PSE will make service available under this schedule to a customer without standby facilities only if the customer, of its own petition, has obtained a waiver of the requirements of standby facilities from the Commission.
- 8 (4) Atlas describes its economics of production as using natural gas as a factor of production for at most twenty percent of its production activities. Most of its foundry process depends on electricity, not gas. The Petitioner asserts that, although it does not have standby facilities at its Chehalis site, it can change its production schedule at the Chehalis site and export work to its Tacoma site in order to handle interruptions in the supply of natural gas.

- 9 (5) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 11, 2004.
- 10 (6) After review of the petition filed in Docket UG-040081 by the Petitioner on January 2, 2004, and giving due consideration, the Commission finds that the waiver is reasonable and should be granted.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 11 (1) After the effective date of this Order, Atlas Castings & Technology, Chehalis Facility, is granted the waiver required by Puget Sound Energy's tariff in Section 4: Requirements for Alternate Fuel Capacity, of Puget Sound Energy's Schedule No. 85, Interruptible Gas Service with Firm Option.
- (2) The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and Puget Sound Energy to effectuate the provisions of this Order.
- 12 The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 11th day of February 2004.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Secretary