



Puget Sound Energy
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March 22, 2024

Filed Via Web Portal

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Jeff Killip, Executive Director and Secretary Washington
Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

**RE: Advice No. 2024-10
Puget Sound Energy’s Electric Tariff Revision**

Dear Executive Director Killip:

Pursuant to RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-101 and -105, please find enclosed for filing the following proposed revisions to the WN U-60, tariff for electric service of Puget Sound Energy (“PSE” or the “Company”):

21 st Revision	Sheet No. 129	Low Income Program
7 th Revision	Sheet No. 129-A.1	Low Income Program (Continued)
21 st Revision	Sheet No. 129-B	Low Income Program (Continued)
20 th Revision	Sheet No. 129-C	Low Income Program (Continued)
22 nd Revision	Sheet No. 129-D	Low Income Program (Continued)
20 th Revision	Sheet No. 129-E	Low Income Program (Continued)
19 th Revision	Sheet No. 129-F	Low Income Program (Continued)
20 th Revision	Sheet No. 129-G	Low Income Program (Continued)
11 th Revision	Sheet No. 129-H	Low Income Program (Continued)
9 th Revision	Sheet No. 129-I	Low Income Program (Continued)

The purpose of this tariff filing is to increase the Annual Cap for total benefits available to customers for the remainder of the 2023-2024 Low Income Program Year. The benefits under Schedule 129 are available to PSE customers meeting the criteria described within that Schedule and pay towards charges on their bills.

With the introduction of PSE’s Bill Discount Rate in 2023, the Company has seen very large increases in requests for PSE Home Energy Lifeline Program (“HELP”) grants, leading to a depletion of funds at a greater rate than anticipated. In order to ensure that customer needs are met, PSE is seeking additional funding for the remainder of the Program Year. Part of this increase is due to PSE’s compliance with the Commission’s Order 01 in Docket No. UG-230470,

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which contains a condition that PSE reach a target of at least 70,000 participants in a bill discount or bill assistance program.

PSE has worked with its Low Income Advisory Committee (“LIAC”) leading up to this filing. On February 13, 2024, the Company presented to the LIAC the current standing of PSE HELP for the remainder of the Program Year and the anticipated need for additional funding. On March 6th, PSE met with the LIAC to present several forecasting options and an update to what the funding request would be using each option.

Overall, this proposal represents a total revenue requirement increase of \$39.5 million, with \$29.3 million of that for electric customers. The collection of this revenue requirement is being spread over the remainder of the HELP program year – May 2024 through September 2024 – to allow for immediate access to funding and avoid rate stacking in the next HELP program year. The average increase for all electric customers affected by this tariff change is 2.67 percent increase in overall bills. A typical residential electric customer on Schedule 7 using 800 kWh per month would experience an increase of \$3.45 per month or 3.16 percent. Note that average residential customer use during this period is significantly lower than the annual typical use; therefore, an average residential customer uses 660 kWh per month during this period and would experience an increase of \$2.85 over the collection period.

Bill assistance programs such as PSE’s Bill Discount Rate, PSE Home Energy Lifeline Program (“HELP”), the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (“LIHEAP”), and the Salvation Army Warm Home Fund are available to qualified customers who need help with their energy bills. PSE customers can go to pse.com/assistance or call 1-888-225-5773 to learn if they are eligible. Payment plans are also available.

The tariff sheets described herein reflect an issue date of March 22, 2024, and effective date of May 1, 2024. Posting of proposed tariff changes, as required by law and the Commission’s rules and regulations, is being completed through web, telephone and mail access in accordance with WAC 480-100-193. Notice to the public under the provisions of WAC 480-100-194 will be provided within 30 days of the May 1, 2024, effective date.

Please contact Veronica Martin at veronica.martin@pse.com for additional information about this filing. If you have any other questions, please contact me at birud.jhaveri@pse.com.

Sincerely,

/s/ Birud D. Jhaveri

Birud D. Jhaveri
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cc: Tad O'Neill, Public Counsel
Sheree Carson, Perkins Coie

Attachments: Electric Tariff Sheets (listed above)
Work Papers