



Puget Sound Energy  
P.O. Box 97034  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9734  
[pse.com](http://pse.com)

March 22, 2024

***Filed Via Web Portal***

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

Received  
Records Management  
Mar 22, 2024

**RE: Advice No. 2024-11  
Puget Sound Energy's Natural Gas 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-2, tariff for natural gas of Puget Sound Energy ("PSE" or the "Company"):

21 <sup>st</sup> Revision	Sheet No. 1129	Low Income Program
6 <sup>th</sup> Revision	Sheet No. 1129-A.1	Low Income Program (Continued)
23 <sup>rd</sup> Revision	Sheet No. 1129-B	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, 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 6<sup>th</sup>, PSE met with the LIAC to present several forecasting options and an update to what the funding request would be using each option.

Jeff Killip, Executive Director and Secretary

March 22, 2024

Page 2 of 2

Overall, this proposal represents a total revenue requirement increase of \$39.5 million, with \$10.2 million of that for natural gas 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 natural gas customers affected by this tariff change is 4.63 percent increase in overall bills. A typical residential natural gas customer on Schedule 23 using 64 therms per month would experience an increase of \$5.10 per month or 6.32 percent. Note that average residential customer use during this period is significantly lower than the annual typical use; therefore, an average residential customer uses 21 therms per month during this period and would experience an increase of \$1.68 per month 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](http://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 480-90-193. Notice to the public under the provisions of WAC 480-90-194 will be provided within 30 days of the May 1, 2024, effective date.

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

Sincerely,

*/s/ Birud D. Jhaveri*

Birud D. Jhaveri  
Director, Regulatory Affairs  
Puget Sound Energy  
PO Box 97034, BEL10W  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9734  
[Birud.Jhaveri@pse.com](mailto:Birud.Jhaveri@pse.com)

cc: Tad O’Neill, Public Counsel  
Sheree Carson, Perkins Coie

Attachments: Natural Gas Tariff Sheets (listed above)  
Work Papers