

Rob McKenna

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF WASHINGTON

Utilities and Transportation Division 1400 S Evergreen Park Drive SW • PO Box 40128 • Olympia WA 98504-0128 • (360) 664-1183

December 12, 2007

Carole J. Washburn, Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW P. O. Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Re: WUTC v. Puget Sound Energy, Inc.

Docket No. UE-070565

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Enclosed for filing in the above-referenced docket are the original and 15 copies of the Facilitator's Report on PCORC Collaborative, and Certificate of Service.

Sincerely,

KOBERT D. CEDARBAUM

Senior Counsel

RDC:klg Enclosures cc: Parties

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

Docket UE-070565

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,

Respondent.

FACILITATOR'S REPORT ON PCORC COLLABORATIVE

- On August 2, 2007, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission entered Order 07 in Docket UE-070565 and established a collaborative to review whether the Power Cost Only Rate Case (PCORC) process for Puget Sound Energy, Inc. should continue and, if so, in what form. The Commission directed the collaborative to explore the following specific subjects:
 - (i) the number of PCORCs that the Company will be allowed to file in any given calendar year
 - (ii) the number and timing of updates that the Company may submit in an individual PCORC before Staff and intervenor response cases are filed in that PCORC
 - (iii) the items directly associated with power costs that may be included and considered in a PCORC filing
 - (iv) whether the number and timing of updates may vary depending on whether or not the update addresses information that other parties can easily verify with little or no additional discovery
 - (v) whether to determine power costs based on forward market prices in lieu of AURORA generated prices
 - (vi) the definition of short-term resources to include in costs tracked by the PCA
- Four of the parties to Commission Docket UE-070565 participated in the collaborative and agreed to explore negotiated modifications to the timing and scope of the PCORC process.¹ They met on September 6, 17, and 21, 2007; October 4 and 26, 2007; and November 2, 9, and 16, 2007. On October 26, 2007, they asked the undersigned to act as facilitator in helping them work toward agreement.

¹ The collaborative participants were the Company, Commission staff, Public Counsel and the Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities. Kroger Company and the Federal Executive Agencies elected not to participate.

- The parties met with me several times, in joint and individual sessions. They worked diligently to explore options, negotiated in good faith, devoted considerable time and effort to the collaborative process and engaged in some research involving the effect of options and the process used in a nearby state. At the conclusion of the process, the parties thoroughly understood their own interests in the matters under discussion, the interests of the other parties, and their own options.
- At that point the parties felt they had reached an impasse. They chose to break off the discussions and allow interested parties the option to refer issues to the Commission for resolution in PSE's pending general rate case. They also agreed that I submit this report to the Commission of their collaborative efforts.

Submitted This /Z day of December 2007.

C. Røbert Wallis

Docket UE-070565 CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this day served the attached Facilitator's Report on PCORC Collaborative, upon the persons and entities listed on the service list below via e-mail and United States mail, addressed as shown on said service list, with first class postage prepaid.

DATED at Olympia, Washington this 12th day of December, 2007.

All parties have signed Confidentiality Agreements

For Puget Sound Energy Sheree Strom Carson Jason Kuzma Perkins Coie LLP

10885 NE Fourth Street Suite 700

Bellevue WA 98004-5579 Phone: (425) 635-1400 Fax: (425) 635-2400

E-mail: scarson@perkinscoie.com

jkuzma@perkinscoie.com

For Public Counsel:

Simon ffitch

Office of the Attorney General

Public Counsel

800 Fifth Ave Suite 2000

Seattle, WA 98104-3188

Phone: (206) 389-2055 Fax: (206) 389-2079

E-mail: simonf@atg.wa.gov

For ICNU:

S. Bradley Van Cleve Davison Van Cleve 333 SW Taylor, Suite 400 Portland, OR 97204 Phone (503) 2341-7242

Fax: (503) 241-8160

E-mail: mail@dvclaw.com

For Kroger Co.: Michael L. Kurtz Kurt J. Boehm

Boehm, Kurtz & Lowry

36 East Seventh Street, Ste. 1510

Cincinnati, OH 45202 Phone: 513-421-2255 Fax: 513-421-2764

E-mail: <u>mkurtz@BKLlawfirm.com</u> kboehm@BKLlawfirm.com

For Federal Executive Agencies:

Norman J. Furuta

Federal Executive Agencies

Associate Counsel

1455 Market Street, Suite 1744 San Francisco, CA 94103-1399

Phone: 415-503-6994 Fax: 415-503-6688

E-mail: norman.furuta@Navy.mil