

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

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND	)	DOCKET UG-101644
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,	)	
	)	
Complainant,	)	
	)	
v.	)	NOTICE OF PREHEARING
	)	CONFERENCE
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,	)	(Set for November 19, 2010,
	)	9:30 a.m.)
Respondent.	)	
	)	
.....	)	

1 Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE) on October 1, 2010, filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Natural Gas Tariff WN U-2. PSE requests that basic charges, gas delivery charges, minimum charges, procurement charges, procurement charge credits and demand charges be revised upward. The proposed tariff revisions provide for a rate increase of 2.3 percent. The Commission suspended operation of the tariffs by Order 01 entered in this docket following the October 28, 2010, open meeting.

2 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter under RCW Title 80, and has legal authority to regulate rates, services, and practices of gas utilities. The statutes that apply to this matter include RCW 80.01, RCW 80.04, and RCW 80.28 relating to rates, including but not limited to RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04.020, RCW 80.28.020, RCW 80.28.030, RCW 80.28.070, RCW 80.28.090, and RCW 80.28.100. The rules that apply to this matter include those within WAC 380-07 and WAC 480-90.

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

4 The Commission finds there is good cause to hear this matter on shortened notice. *See WAC 480-07-440(1)(a)*. Indeed, the Commission endeavored to set the date for a first prehearing conference seven days after the date of this notice, on November 10, 2010. Several parties, including notably PSE and Staff, indicated they could not be

available before November 19, 2010. We accordingly establish the later date at the parties' request, but caution that delays such as this may undermine the Commission's ability to conduct this matter as expeditiously as might be preferred.

5 **THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE That it will hold a prehearing conference in this matter at 9:30 a.m., on November 19, 2010, in the Commission's Hearing Room, Second Floor, Richard Hemstad Building, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W., Olympia, Washington.**

6 The purpose of the prehearing conference is to consider requests for intervention, resolve scheduling matters including establishing dates for distributing evidence and workpapers, to, 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.

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

8 **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.**

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

Complainant:	Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission Richard Hemstad Building 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W. P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250
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Representative: Robert D. Cedarbaum  
Assistant Attorney General  
1400 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.  
P.O. Box 40128  
Olympia, WA 98504-0128  
(360) 664-1188  
[bcedarba@utc.wa.gov](mailto:bcedarba@utc.wa.gov)

Respondent: Tom DeBoer  
Director, Federal & State Regulatory Affairs  
Puget Sound Energy, Inc.  
P.O. Box 97034  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9734  
(425) 462-3495

Representative: Sheree Strom Carson  
Donna Barnett  
Perkins Coie LLP  
10885 NE Fourth Street, Suite 700  
Bellevue, WA 98004-5579  
(425) 635-1400  
(425) 635-2400  
[scarson@perkinscoie.com](mailto:scarson@perkinscoie.com)  
[dbarnett@perkinscoie.com](mailto:dbarnett@perkinscoie.com)

Public Counsel: Simon J. ffitich  
Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney General  
Public Counsel Section  
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000  
Seattle, WA 98104-3188  
(206) 389-2055

- 10 Administrative Law Judge Dennis J. Moss, from the Commission's Administrative Law Division, will preside during this proceeding.
- 11 The Attorney General has designated Simon J. ffitich of the Office of the 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.

- 12 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 Olympia, Washington, and effective November 3, 2010.

WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER  
Executive Director and Secretary

Inquiries may be addressed to:

Executive Secretary  
Washington State Utilities and  
Transportation Commission  
Richard Hemstad Building  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive S.W.  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250  
(360) 664-1160

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

**NOTICE**

Hearing facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Smoking is prohibited. If limited English-speaking, 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 fill out this form and return it to Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission, Attention: David W. Danner, 1300 S. Evergreen Park Drive SW, P. O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250. (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: \_\_\_\_\_

English-speaking person who can be contacted if there are questions:

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_