

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND)	DOCKET NO. PG-041624
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)	
)	ORDER NO. 05
Complainant,)	
)	PREHEARING CONFERENCE
v.)	ORDER ESTABLISHING
)	SCHEDULE
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

.....

1 **NATURE OF PROCEEDING.** Docket No. PG-014624 is a complaint proceeding initiated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) against Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE or the company) and an emergency adjudicative proceeding to determine whether to order emergency relief. The complaint arises out of an explosion on September 2, 2004, at the house located at 16645 SE 26th Place, Bellevue, Washington where natural gas service was provided by PSE.

2 **CONFERENCES.** The Commission convened an emergency adjudicative proceeding on September 15, 2004, in Olympia, Washington, before Chairwoman Marilyn Showalter, Commissioner Patrick J. Oshie, and Administrative Law Judge Ann E. Rendahl. During the hearing, the Commission granted the Petition to Intervene of the City of Bellevue and accepted the Agreed Submission of Commission Staff and PSE identifying the agreed upon action plan for addressing the emergency. The Commission convened a prehearing conferences before Administrative Law Judge Theodora M. Mace on October 21 and December 9, 2004 and a further prehearing conference March 15, 2005.

3 **APPEARANCES.** James F. Williams, Perkins Coie LLP, Bellevue, Washington, represents PSE. Lori M. Riordan, Acting City Attorney, Bellevue, Washington, represents the City of Bellevue. Donald T. Trotter, Assistant Attorney General, Olympia, Washington, represents Commission Staff.

4 **STATUS OF CASE.** During the March 15, 2005 prehearing conference, Commission Staff stated that it had received PSE's completed metallurgic report on the failed gas pipe involved in the September 2004 Bellevue explosion. Staff further expected that coating survey and sample of pipe service facilities would be completed by early May 2005. Based on the progress made in the investigation of the September 2004 explosion, the parties expressed readiness to schedule testimony filing dates and dates for an evidentiary hearing.

SCHEDULE OF PROCEEDINGS. The parties agreed to the following schedule of proceedings, although they asked that, if possible, there be some flexibility to move the schedule up if Staff was able to file its direct testimony earlier.

Staff files its direct case	On or before June 28, 2005
Company/City files direct	July 27, 2005
Staff files rebuttal	August 24, 2005
Prehearing conference	September 13, 2005, 1:30 p.m.
Evidentiary hearing	September 19-21, 2005
Initial briefs	October 21, 2005
Reply briefs	November 4, 2005

- 5 **NOTICE TO PARTIES: Any objection to the provisions of this Order must be filed within ten (10) days after the service date of this Order, pursuant to WAC 480-07-430 and WAC 480-07-810. Absent such objection, this Order will control further proceedings in this matter, subject to Commission review.**

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective this 15th day of March 2005.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

THEODORA M. MACE
Administrative Law Judge