

Exhibit No. ___ (SGH-18)
Docket Nos. UE-060266/UG-060267
Witness: Stephen G. Hill

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.

Respondent.

DOCKET NO. UE-060266

DOCKET NO. UG-060267

EXHIBIT TO DIRECT TESTIMONY OF

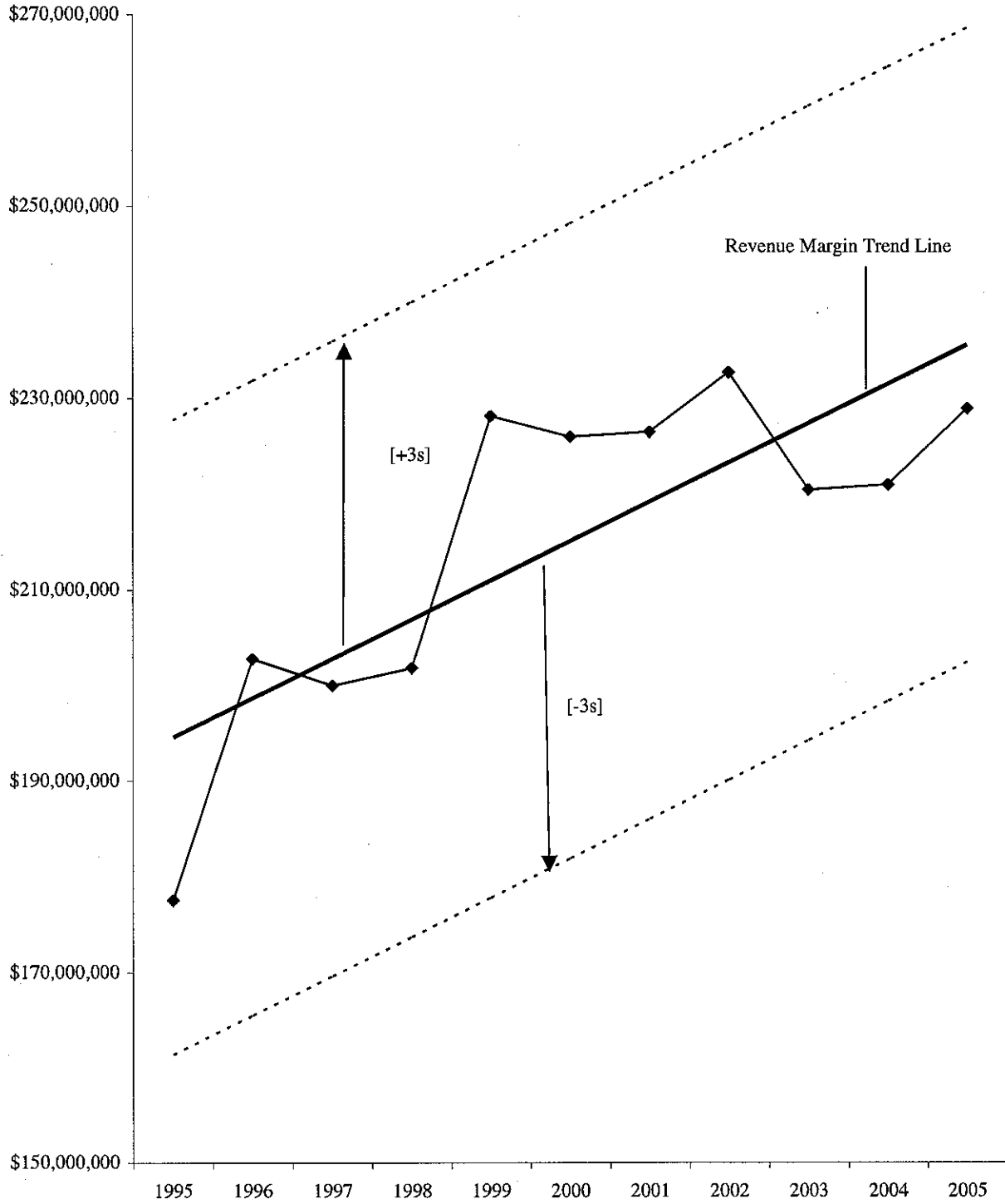
STEPHEN G. HILL

ON BEHALF OF STAFF OF
WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Gas Utility Margin Volatility

July 25, 2006

PUGET SOUND ENERGY
GAS UTILITY REVENUE MARGIN VOLATILITY



**PUGET SOUND ENERGY
REVENUE MARGIN TRENDLINE CALCULATION**

| YEAR | X | Y Margin Revenues | x (X-Xavg.) | y (Y-Yavg) | x squared | xy | y squared |
|---------|----|----------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| 1995 | 1 | \$177,574,906 | -5 | -\$37,481,717 | 25 | \$187,408,586 | 1.4049E+15 |
| 1996 | 2 | \$202,777,679 | -4 | -\$12,278,944 | 16 | \$49,115,777 | 1.5077E+14 |
| 1997 | 3 | \$199,975,893 | -3 | -\$15,080,730 | 9 | \$45,242,191 | 2.2743E+14 |
| 1998 | 4 | \$201,795,585 | -2 | -\$13,261,038 | 4 | \$26,522,076 | 1.7586E+14 |
| 1999 | 5 | \$228,149,366 | -1 | \$13,092,743 | 1 | -\$13,092,743 | 1.7142E+14 |
| 2000 | 6 | \$225,977,009 | 0 | \$10,920,386 | 0 | \$0 | 1.1925E+14 |
| 2001 | 7 | \$226,464,778 | 1 | \$11,408,155 | 1 | \$11,408,155 | 1.3015E+14 |
| 2002 | 8 | \$232,683,051 | 2 | \$17,626,428 | 4 | \$35,252,856 | 3.1069E+14 |
| 2003 | 9 | \$220,403,232 | 3 | \$5,346,609 | 9 | \$16,039,826 | 2.8586E+13 |
| 2004 | 10 | \$220,928,689 | 4 | \$5,872,066 | 16 | \$23,488,263 | 3.4481E+13 |
| 2005 | 11 | \$228,892,667 | 5 | \$13,836,044 | 25 | \$69,180,219 | 1.9144E+14 |
| Sum | 66 | 2365622855 | | | 110 | 450565206 | 2.94495E+15 |
| Average | 6 | 215056623.2 | | | | | |

slope (b) = $(\sum xy)/(\sum x\text{-squared}) =$ 4096047.327
intercept (a) = $Y\text{avg} - (b) X\text{avg} =$ 190480339.2
r squared = $b(\sum xy)/(\sum y\text{ squared}) =$ 0.626678279

variance of y given x - $(1/(n-2))(\sum y\text{ squared} - b\sum xy)$
variance of y given x = 1.22157E+14

| |
|--------------|
| 25% Variance |
| 3.05393E+13 |

standard deviation of y given x = $\sqrt{\text{variance of y given x}}$
standard deviation of y given x = $\sqrt{(1.22157E+14)}$
standard deviation of y given x = \$11,052,470
3 standard deviation units = \$33,157,411

| |
|--------------|
| \$5,526,235 |
| \$16,578,706 |

Reference: Hemptober, et al, Statistical Inference for Mangement and Economics, Allyn and Bacon, 1975, pp. 284-287.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY
REVENUE MARGIN SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS
1995-2005

Assume: Variance of Revenue Margin Following Decoupling is 25% of Pre-decoupling Level.

1) Annual Revenue Margin (from Exhibit__(SGH-18), p. 2)

| | |
|---|---|
| $\sigma = \$11,052,470$ | $\sigma =$ one standard deviation unit (historical) |
| $3\sigma = \$33,157,411$ | $3\sigma =$ 3 standard deviation units (historical) |
| $3\sigma^* = \$16,578,706 = 1.50\sigma$ | $3\sigma^* =$ 3 standard deviation units (25% variance) |

2) Probability (p) Difference Between 3 Standard Deviation Units (Historical), and
3 Standard Deviation Units (Variance Reduced to 25%)

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| $p(3\sigma) =$ | 0.49865 |
| less $p(3\sigma^*) = 1.50\sigma =$ | <u>0.43319</u> |
| | 0.06546 or 6.546% of average revenue margin |

3) Basis Point Impact of a 6.546% Reduction in Annual Revenue Margin

| | |
|---|------------------|
| a) Average Revenue Margin 1995-2005 | \$215,056,623 |
| | <u>x 0.06546</u> |
| Annual Average Revenue Margin Reduction | \$14,077,607 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| b) Company Requested Rate Base | \$4.2 Billion |
| Common Equity Ratio | 43% |
| A 1% Equity Return Reduction | $= (1\% \times 43\% \times \$4.2 \text{ B}) / (1 - 34\%)$ |
| | $= \$27.363 \text{ Million}$ |

c) If 1% ROE Change Affects Annual Revenues by \$27.363 Million,
Then, a \$14.077 Million Reduction is Equivalent to a 0.51% Change In ROE

$$\$14.077\text{M} \div \$27.363\text{M} = 51.44\%$$

Historical Data from Company Witness Amen's Workpapers.
Probability Table Data From: Hemptober, et al, Statistical Inference for Management and Economics,
Allyn and Bacon, 1975, appendix, Table II, "Areas of the Standard Normal Distribution."