

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

In the Matter of the Request of	)	DOCKET UE-072114
	)	
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.	)	ORDER 01
	)	
	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	
For Less Than Statutory Notice in	)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
Connection with Tariff Revisions	)	STATUTORY NOTICE
.....	)	

**BACKGROUND**

- 1     On October 30, 2007, Puget Sound Energy, Inc (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective Tariff WN U-60, designated as Eightieth Revision of Sheet No. 81-a – Schedule 81 (Canceling Seventh-Ninth Revision Sheet No. 81-a – Schedule 81) to update the tariff sheet to reflect the tax rate increase associated with the City of Rainier’s Business and Occupation Tax (Ordinance No. 525).
  
- 2     RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121 require thirty-days notice to the Commission prior to the effective date of the tariff. The tariff sheets bear an inserted effective date of November 30, 2007. This date recognizes statutory notice as required. PSE requests, however, less than statutory notice as permitted in WAC 480-80-122, and that the revisions become effective November 8, 2007. PSE stated the reason for less than statutory notice is that the Company did not receive timely notice of the City’s Ordinance 525, which changed the Business and Occupation Tax from four to six percent.
  
- 3     WAC 480-100-194 requires notification to customers or publication of the revision sought in this filing. Granting PSE less than statutory notice request also requires an exemption from WAC 480-100-194. For the same reason listed for seeking less than statutory notice, the Company seeks such an exemption from customer notice requirements. PSE proposes to notify customers by bill insert for all customers impacted by the proposed tariff change in the first billing after the tariff revision becomes effective.
  
- 4     Since the proposed tariff revisions appear to be fair, just, reasonable and sufficient, and less than statutory notice is consistent with the public interest, it is appropriate that the Commission grant the Company’s request with an effective date of November 8, 2007.

### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5 (1) The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the state of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interest transactions of public service companies, including gas companies. *RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16, and RCW 80.28.*
- 6 (2) PSE is an electric and gas public service company subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 7 (3) PSE is subject to the provisions of RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121 requiring gas companies to file changes in any rate or charge with thirty days notice. For good cause shown, however, the Commission may allow changes without requiring thirty days notice by order specifying the changes to be made and the time when it shall take effect. *WAC 480-80-122.*
- 8 (4) WAC 480-100-008 provides that the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in RCW 480-100 WAC, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes.
- 9 (5) Staff has reviewed the request in Docket UE-072114 and recommends the less than statutory notice request of PSE be granted to be effective November 8, 2007. Staff further recommends the Commission grant an exemption to WAC 480-100-195 and require the Company to notify customers by bill insert for all customers impacted by the proposed tariff change following final disposition of this filing.
- 10 (6) This matter was brought before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on November 7, 2007.
- 11 (7) After reviewing the proposed tariff revisions PSE filed on October 30, 2007, and giving consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revisions should become effective November 8, 2007.

- 12 (8) The Commission also finds PSE should be granted an exemption to the customer notice requirements.

**ORDER**

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 (1) The request sought by Puget Sound Energy, Inc., for less than statutory notice is granted.
- 14 (2) After the effective date of this Order, Puget Sound Energy, Inc is granted an exemption from WAC 480-100-194, "Publication of proposed changes to increase charges or restrict access in service." The Company shall notify customers by bill insert for all customers impacted by the proposed tariff change following final disposition of this filing.

The Commissioners, having determined this Order to be consistent with the public interest, directed the Executive Secretary to enter this Order.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective November 7, 2007.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CAROLE J. WASHBURN, Executive Secretary