# BEFORE THE WASHINGTON STATE UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Request of	)	DOCKET UE-080576
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,	)	ORDER 01
readr seems Endicer, nee,	)	
Petitioner,	)	
	)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
For Less Than Statutory Notice in	)	STATUTORY NOTICE; ALLOWING
Connection with Tariff Revisions	)	TARIFF REVISION
	)	

### **BACKGROUND**

- On April 1, 2008, Puget Sound Energy, Inc., (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) a revision to its currently effective Tariff WN U-60, designated as Fifth Revision of Sheet No. 194. This filing re-instates the residential/farm exchange credit from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) for a one-month period.
- 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 sheet bears an effective date of May 1, 2008. This date recognizes the required 30-day statutory notice. The Company requests, however, less than statutory notice as permitted by WAC 480-80-122, and that the revision becomes effective April 11, 2008. PSE requests less than statutory notice because PSE is required to pass the BPA residential exchange payments through to customers as a reduction on customer bills. The Company seeks to implement the tariff revision as soon as practicable.
- WAC 480-100-194 requires notice to customers or publication if an increase is sought in this filing. The tariff revision requested in this present docket reduces customer rates; therefore customer notice is accomplished through compliance with WAC 480-100-193 and -195(3). PSE is posting the notice of the proposed tariff change, as required by WAC 480-100-193, on the PSE Web site immediately prior to, or coincident with, the date of the filing and by telephone and mail access in accordance with WAC 480-100-193.
- PSE's proposal to pass the BPA residential exchange benefits through to customers in a one month period is fair and reasonable while minimizing administrative burdens. The one-month impact on customer bills is noticeable. The time period for this reduction in

rates is one of relatively average use which reduces bias across the customer use spectrum.

Since the proposed tariff revision appears 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 PSE's request with an effective date of April 11, 2008.

#### FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission is an agency of the State of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate the rates, regulations, practices, accounts, securities, transfers of property and affiliated interests of public service companies, including electric companies.

  \*RCW 80.01.040, RCW 80.04, RCW 80.08, RCW 80.12, RCW 80.16 and RCW 80.28.\*
- 7 (2) PSE is an electric company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- PSE is subject to RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121, which require electric companies to file changes in any rate, charge or service 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 the Order shall take effect. WAC 480-80-122.
- 9 (4) Under WAC 480-100-008, the Commission may grant an exemption from the provisions of any rule in WAC 480-100, if consistent with the public interest, the purposes underlying regulation and applicable statutes. *See also WAC 480-07-110*.
- 10 (5) Staff has reviewed PSE's request in Docket UE-080576 and recommends the Commission grant the Company's request for less than statutory notice. Staff further recommends the Commission grant an exemption from WAC 480-100-194 and require PSE to notify customers of the decrease in rates, consistent with WAC 480-100-193 and -195(3).

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11 (6) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on April 10, 2008.

- 12 (7) After reviewing PSE's proposed tariff revision filed on April 1, 2008, and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revision should become effective April 11, 2008.
- 13 (8) The Commission also finds PSE should be granted an exemption from the customer notice requirements.

#### ORDER

#### THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 14 (1) Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s request for less than statutory notice is granted.
- 15 (2) After the effective date of this Order, Puget Sound Energy, Inc., is granted an exemption from WAC 480-100-194, which requires notice to customers of proposed changes to increase charges or restrict access in service. Puget Sound Energy, Inc., must provide notice to customers by posting the tariff change on the PSE Web site and by telephone and mail access in accordance with WAC 480-100-193.
- 16 (3) The tariff revision Puget Sound Energy, Inc. filed with the Commission on April 1, 2008, will be effective on April 11, 2008.

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective April 10, 2008.

## WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

MARK H. SIDRAN, Chairman

PATRICK J. OSHIE, Commissioner

PHILIP B. JONES, Commissioner