

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Request of)	DOCKET UG-130393
)	
PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.,)	ORDER 01
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	ORDER GRANTING LESS THAN
For Less Than Statutory Notice in)	STATUTORY NOTICE; ALLOWING
Connection with Tariff Revisions)	TARIFF REVISIONS
.....)	

BACKGROUND

- 1 On March 18, 2013, 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-2, designated as Natural Gas Tariff, Sheet No. 1137. PSE’s Carbon Offset Pilot program, also known as the Carbon Balance Program was initially offered April 1, 2011, and will expire on April 1, 2013.
- 2 RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121 require thirty days’ notice to customers prior to the effective date of the tariff. The tariff sheet bears an effective date of April 18, 2013. 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 1, 2013. PSE requests less than statutory notice because it is necessary in order to continue the Carbon Offset program without interruption, due to the current program expiration date of April 1, 2013.
- 3 Granting PSE’s less than statutory notice request also requires an exemption from WAC 480-90-194. For the same reason PSE identified for seeking less than statutory notice, the Company seeks an exemption from the notice requirements. PSE proposes to notify customers in accordance with WAC 480-90-195(3) in the same manner as posting is accomplished pursuant to WAC 480-90-193.
- 4 PSE’s request is reasonable because the filing does not increase rates or restrict access to service. The filing also allows the Carbon Offset program to continue without interruption.
- 5 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 1, 2013.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6 (1) 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 gas 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 a gas company and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.
- 8 (3) PSE is subject to RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-121, which require gas companies to file changes in any rate or charges 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. RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-122.
- 9 (4) Staff has reviewed PSE's request in Docket UG-130393 and recommends the Commission grant the Company's request for less than statutory notice. Staff further recommends the Commission grant an exemption from WAC 480-90-194 and require the Company to notify customers in accordance with WAC 480-90-195(3) in the same manner as posting is accomplished pursuant to WAC 480-90-193.
- 10 (5) This matter came before the Commission at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 28, 2013.
- 11 (6) After reviewing PSE's proposed tariff revision filed on March 18, 2013 and giving due consideration to all relevant matters and for good cause shown, the Commission finds the proposed tariff revision should become effective April 1, 2013.
- 12 (8) The Commission also finds PSE should be granted an exemption from the customer notice requirements in WAC 480-90-194.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 13 (1) Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s request 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 480-90-194, which requires a 30-day notice to customers of proposed changes to increase charges or restrict access in service. Puget Sound Energy, Inc. must provide notice to customers in accordance with WAC 480-90-195(3) in the same manner as posting is accomplished pursuant to WAC 480-90-193.
- 15 (3) The tariff revisions Puget Sound Energy, Inc., filed on March 18, 2013 will be effective on April 1, 2013.

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

DATED at Olympia, Washington, and effective March 28, 2013.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

STEVEN V. KING, Acting Executive Director and Secretary