

[Service Date October 8, 2008]

October 8, 2008

**NOTICE PROVIDING OPPORTUNITY TO FILE REPLY BRIEFS
(Submission Deadline Set for October 23, 2008)**

*Re In the Matter of the Joint Application of Puget Holdings LLC and Puget Sound Energy, Inc., for an Order Authorizing Proposed Transaction
Docket U-072375*

TO ALL PARTIES:

On September 24, 2008, Puget Holdings LLC and Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (Joint Applicants), Commission Staff, Industrial Customers of Northwest Utilities, and Northwest Energy Coalition filed briefs supporting Commission approval and adoption of their Settlement Stipulation in resolution of the issues in this proceeding. The effect of such action would be approval of the proposed acquisition of Puget Sound Energy, Inc. by Puget Holdings LLC. The Public Counsel Section of the Washington Office of Attorney General filed its brief opposing the settlement and the proposed transaction on the same day.

Although the briefs were filed simultaneously, the record in this proceeding is very well developed and the parties were able to anticipate generally each other's arguments supporting or opposing Commission adoption of the Settlement Stipulation and approval of the proposed transaction. However, on review of the initial briefs, the Commission finds the record could benefit from rebuttal argument by the parties on specific points. This argument can be presented in the form of reply briefs, as authorized under WAC 480-07-390. By providing the parties an opportunity to file reply briefs, the Commission will gain the benefit of having more focused point and counterpoint discussion of the evidence. The Commission accordingly gives notice here that parties may file reply briefs of up to 30 pages length directly addressing specific arguments by other parties with which they disagree. Thorough citation to the opposing initial brief(s) and the record in connection with each argument will assist the Commission when considering this additional round of argument.

THE COMMISSION GIVES NOTICE that the parties may file reply briefs of 30 pages length, and otherwise in accordance with the Commission's procedural rules, no later than October 24, 2008. Parties may electronically submit their reply briefs by 3:00 p.m. on October 23, 2008, so long as the required original and copies are received at the Commission on the following day.

Sincerely,

DENNIS J. MOSS
Administrative Law Judge