

PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC.
Electric Tariff G

SCHEDULE 129
LOW INCOME PROGRAM

AVAILABILITY/APPLICABILITY: The benefits available under this Low Income Program ("Program") (as approved in Docket Nos. UE-011570 and UG-011571) are available to Customers of the Company meeting the criteria described herein. The charges under this schedule apply to all Customers of the Company.

BENEFITS:

1. Benefits under this Program are available through designated agencies (herein "Agencies") that: a) meet the criteria for a "Qualifying Organization" as defined in RCW 82.16.0497, b) the Company accepts as capable of performing necessary obligations under this Program, and c) executes a contract with the Company that is: i) consistent with this schedule, ii) provides for periodic auditing, and iii) provides for an annual administration evaluation. The Agencies will ascertain whether specific Customer households seeking assistance with their electric bills are eligible for assistance under the Program.
 - a. The Agencies will determine whether a Customer meets the federal definition for Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program ("LIHEAP") qualification.
 - i) If the Customer is eligible, it will receive LIHEAP funds in lieu of funds under this Program unless or until LIHEAP funds are exhausted. Thereafter, the Customer will be considered for this Program.
 - ii) If the Customer is not eligible to receive LIHEAP funds, but meets the Company criteria, the Customer will be considered for this Program.
 - iii) If the Customer meets all applicable criteria, the Customer will be eligible to receive assistance under the Company's Program or Customers may voluntarily choose to participate in a Time of Day Discount assistance program (Schedules 308 and 309).
 - b. Total Benefits for the program year (where Total Benefits is equal to benefits to eligible Customers under this Program plus the Agencies' administrative fees and the Company's program costs) under this Program and the Total Benefits of the Program under the Company's natural gas tariff are subject to a combined Annual Cap of \$21.887 million, provided that Total Benefits not expended in one program year will be included in Total Benefits for the following program year and be allocated along with funding for the current program year. The Annual Cap for the program year is allocated into Annual Caps of \$16.406 million for electric and \$5.481 million for natural gas Low Income Programs. Total Benefits are equal to the Annual Caps plus carry-over of funds not expended in the prior year. (I)

A qualifying Customer may receive assistance through this Program once during a program year. Customers shall be requalified annually by one of the Agencies. Total benefits to an individual eligible Customer under this program are subject to an annual cap equal to the LIHEAP cap (currently \$1,000.00).

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By:



Ken Johnson

Title: Director, State Regulatory Affairs

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Electric Tariff G

SCHEDULE 129
LOW INCOME PROGRAM (Continued)

INCOME ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: With exceptions as noted, eligibility will be restricted to "very low-income households", as defined by the Washington Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development for purposes of affordable housing in RCW 43.63A.510. Currently that definition identifies households with an income not to exceed 50% of area median income. For purposes of this Program, in areas where 50% of median income exceeds 150% of federal poverty guidelines, eligibility will be capped at 150% of federal poverty guidelines; and in areas where 50% of median income falls below 125% of federal poverty guidelines, eligibility will be capped at 125% of federal poverty guidelines. To summarize, the income-eligibility ceiling for the Program fluctuates in a range between 125% and 150% of federal poverty guidelines; within the range, the precise figure equals 50% of the median income of an area.

INFORMATION SERVICES:

1. Agencies will provide qualifying Customers with the following education and information.
 - a. Low-income weatherization program information.
 - b. Personal Energy Management (PEM) and, if applicable, Time of Day rate education.
 - c. Information on deferred payment arrangements and budget billing.
 - d. Conservation education and information.
2. The Company will provide qualifying Customers with the following information.
Information to Customers dealing with delinquent utility bills on how to access low-income assistance.

FUNDING:

1. There will be a prescribed agency administrative fee structure based on actual costs to local contractors to operate the LIHEAP program in Washington State. The administrative fees paid to Agencies will be considered part of the Total Benefits paid under this Program. Funding of benefits under this Program will be allocated in the Company's service area proportionate to LIHEAP payments to PSE for electricity in the most recent LIHEAP fiscal year.
2. There will be a surcharge on all electric Energy (kWh) and all natural gas Energy (therms) to all customer classes that will be subject to an annual true-up to reflect changes in billing determinants so that the Annual Cap of \$21.887 million under the natural gas and electric Low Income Programs are equal to the Funding amounts collected by this schedule plus the Natural Gas Schedule 129, minus the effect of all of the Company's revenue sensitive costs such as taxes. (l)

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