

Puget Sound Energy, Inc. P.O. Box 97034 Bellevue, WA 98009-9734

May 1, 2008

Ms. Carole J. Washburn, Executive Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

VIA Web Portal and US Mail

Re:

Docket Nos. UE-072300 and UG-072301 Advice No. 2007-34 – Electric Tariff Filing Advice No. 2007-35 – Natural Gas Tariff Filing

Dear Ms. Washburn:

Pursuant to WAC 480-100-198, and 480-90-198, Notice Verification and Assistance, Puget Sound Energy (the "Company") is providing this statement that it has mailed the notice to customers in the above-referenced dockets in accordance with WAC 480-100-197, Adjudicative Proceedings Where Public Testimony Will Be Taken. This mailing was completed on May 1, 2008.

As mentioned in the cover letter in the above filing, the Company also states that the tariffs were posted in accordance with WAC 480-100-193(1) and WAC 480-90-193(1), Posting Of Tariffs For Public Inspection And Review, and were made available to the public by web, telephone and mail.

A copy of the notice required by WAC 480-100-197 and WAC 480-90-197 is enclosed. Notices were sent to customers by inserting in bills and by direct mail. Notices inserted in bills were included with bills mailed starting March 14, 2008 and ending with bills mailed on May 1, 2008. Notices directly mailed to customers were mailed on April 25, 2008.

Approximately 1,044,122 electric customers and approximately 717,604 natural gas customers are affected by the Company's filing.

Please contact Lynn Logen at (425) 462-3872 for additional information about this filing or the posting. If you have any other questions please contact me at (425) 462-3495.

Very truly yours,

Tom DeBoer

Director, Rates & Regulatory Affairs

Enclosure

cc:

Simon J. ffitch

**Sheree Strom Carson** 

## NOTICE OF REQUESTED RATE INCREASE

You have an opportunity to comment on PSE's requested rate increase. The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission will hold three public hearings on this rate request as well as PSE's merger application.

(Please see separate notice for additional merger information)

In December 2007, Puget Sound Energy (PSE) asked the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) for approval to increase its rates by \$174.5 million (9.5 percent overall) for electric customers and \$56.7 million (5.31 percent overall) for gas customers. The primary purpose of these increases would be to recover PSE's costs, including:

- New plant to provide service to customers—increases of \$25.8 million for electric and \$15.5 million for natural gas.
- Depreciation costs—increases of \$12.8 million for electric and \$18.9 million for natural gas.
- \$55.1 million for increases in electric power cost.
- Return on shareholder investment—increases of \$12.2 million for electric and \$5.0 million for natural gas.
- \$16.6 million increase in costs related to storm damage restoration. This amount is a portion of the

#### 6:30 p.m. Public hearing dates and locations

#### May 15 Bellevue

Bellevue Community College Room 130 B 3000 Landerholm Circle S.E.

#### May 20 Bellingham

Bellingham Senior Activity Center 315 Halleck Street

#### June 4 Olympia

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission 1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. S.W.

\$83.6 million total cost of the 2006 Hanukkah Eve storm, as well as a portion of the \$28.5 million from other 2003 through 2007 storms. PSE's request would collect the total storm costs in rates over a period of years.

The UTC has the authority to approve rates that are higher or lower than PSE's request depending on the results of its investigation. The UTC will conduct an investigation to determine if the proposed rates are fair. The UTC staff, PSE, Public Counsel Section of the Attorney General's Office, and other parties will participate. The new rates will become effective upon completion of the UTC's investigation, which may take up to 11 months.

The UTC will hold three public hearings so that customers have an opportunity to tell the UTC commissioners their opinions about the rate increase request.



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# You are invited to comment to the UTC:

- in person at one of three public hearings (outlined in this notice)
- in writing (see card at right): UTC P.O. Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504-7250
- by telephone at: 1-800-562-6150
- via UTC web form: http://www.utc.wa.gov/comment
- by email at:
  comments@utc.wa.gov
- by fax at: 360-664-4291

Please reference docket numbers UE-072300 (electric) and/or UG-072301 (natural gas) in your correspondence.

Customer Name:			4
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## Effects on residential customers

Based on the overall or average increase (1) shown below, the request will result in increases for the typical residential electric and for the typical natural gas customer as follows:

Electric Service at 1000 k	Wh per month(2):	
	Current Bill	Proposed
Average rate (3) per kwh	8.53¢	9.29¢
Basic charge per month	\$6.02	\$9.00
Total	\$91.27	\$101.91

Natural Gas Service at 68	therms per month <sup>(2)</sup>	:
	Current Bill	Proposed
Average rate (4) per therm	31.248¢	23.719¢
Basic charge per month	\$8.25	\$18.00
Total	\$82.08	\$86.68

Note: The figures shown here are ranges and averages. It is not possible to set out every service or every variation in this brief notice.

## Summary of requested rate increases

Overall \$ Increase	Overall % Increase
\$174,482,512	9.5%
Electric Schedule(s)	Average Increase <sup>(1)</sup>
7 .	11.8%
24, 25,	6.4%
26, 29	
31, 35, 43	9.4%
40	5.0%
46, 49	9.4%
449, 459	9.4%
50-59	7.1%
	\$ Increase \$174,482,512 Electric Schedule(s), 7 24, 25, 26, 29 31, 35, 43 40 46, 49

<sup>(1)</sup> Individual rate schedules will see a greater or lesser increase than the overall or average Increase shown depending on the amount of usage.

The control of the second of the control of the con	Overall \$ Increase	Overall % Increase
Natural Gas	\$56,770,922	5.31%
	Natural Gas	Average
Type of Service	Schedule(s)	Increase <sup>(1)</sup>
Residential	23	5.73%
Commercial & Industrial	31	6.86%
Non-Residential	1	
High Load Factor	41	0.00%
Non-Residential Interruptible	85	0.00%
Non-Residential Interruptible	86	-1.76%
Non-Residential Interruptible	87	3.64%
Non-Residential Transportation	57	23.89%
Compressed for Vehicles	50	4.05%
Rental Water Heaters/Burners	71-74	5.20%

PSE has proposed to increase the monthly residential natural gas basic charge from \$8.25 to \$18.00, to cancel Schedules 36 and 51 and revise and expand schedules for transportation service and cancel Schedule 57 in 2012.

Comments: (continued)			
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The public is represented by the Public Counsel Section of the Washington Attorney General's Office. You can contact the office at:

**Public Counsel Assistant Attorney General** 800 5th Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98104-3188

or by email: utility@atg.wa.gov

To contact Puget Sound Energy. you may reach us in writing at:

**Puget Sound Energy** Attn.: Customer Service P.O. Box 90868 Bellevue, WA 98009-0868

or by e-mail:

generalratecase@pse.com

For more information visit PSE.com or call 1-888-225-5773 press option 4.

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<sup>🕮</sup> Individual rate schedules will see a greater or lesser increase than the overall or average increase shown depending on the amount of usage

<sup>(2)</sup> Most electric and all gas customers are bliled monthly. Some electric customers are bliled every other month.

 <sup>&</sup>quot;Most electric and an gas customiers are officer internally." Control and proposed electric rates shown above represent the average cost of energy and other per kwin charges.
 \*Current and proposed natural gas rates shown above represent per therm charges except for the cost of the gas commodity.