

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

In the Matter of the Petition of)	DOCKET UG-151663
)	
PUGET SOUND ENERGY,)	ORDER 06
)	
for (i) Approval of a Special Contract for)	GRANTING MOTION TO
Liquefied Natural Gas Fuel Service with)	SUSPEND PROCEDURAL
Totem Ocean Trailer Express, Inc. and)	SCHEDULE
(ii) a Declaratory Order Approving the)	
Methodology for Allocating Costs)	
Between Regulated and Non-regulated)	
Liquefied Natural Gas Services)	
.....)	

MEMORANDUM

- 1 The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) entered Order 04 in this proceeding on December 18, 2015. Order 04, among other things, established dates for supplemental briefs to be filed and for oral argument. The Commission entered Order 05 on January 11, 2016, extending the date for filing supplemental briefs from January 15, 2016 to January 29, 2015, allowing an opportunity for parties to file reply briefs on February 15, 2016, and rescheduling oral argument.
- 2 On January 22, 2016, Commission Staff filed a motion to suspend the procedural schedule to allow parties additional time to engage in settlement discussions. Staff states it contacted all parties and none are opposed to its motion.
- 3 The Commission grants timely requests for continuance to which all parties agree unless inconsistent with the public interest or the Commission’s administrative needs. Continuances typically are required to be to a specific date, or dates, but suspension for an indefinite period is appropriate in some circumstances such as are presented here. As the Commission discussed in Order 04:

We conclude that the legislative finding in RCW 80.28.280 that the development of liquefied natural gas vessel refueling facilities is in the public interest requires that we take our inquiry further. In addition, we recognize that while the Commission’s core function in regulating gas and electric companies is as an economic regulator, we also have a responsibility to consider externalities, including environmental costs and

benefits, affected by our decisions. In this connection, we are confident there are environmental benefits to having LNG marine fueling facilities available and wish to encourage their development within the scope of our authority.¹

Providing the parties additional time and opportunity for settlement discussions in the context of this case is in the public interest. We accordingly determine there is good cause to grant Staff's unopposed motion.

ORDER

- 4 THE COMMISSION ORDERS THAT the Staff's Motion To Suspend Procedural Schedule, filed on January 22, 2016, is GRANTED.
- 5 THE COMMISSION ORDERS FURTHER THAT Staff will keep the undersigned presiding Administrative Law Judge apprised of the status of settlement discussions via informal communications from time to time, as appropriate.

Dated at Olympia, Washington, and effective January 25, 2016.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DENNIS J. MOSS
Senior Review Judge

¹ Order 04 ¶ 29.