

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-240004 and UG-
240005 (*Consolidated*)

ORDER 01

COMPLAINT AND ORDER
SUSPENDING TARIFF REVISIONS;
ORDER OF CONSOLIDATION

BACKGROUND

- 1 On February 15, 2024, Puget Sound Energy (PSE or Company) filed with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (Commission) revisions to its currently effective WN U-60 Tariff G for electric service, as listed in Appendix A, attached to this Order. PSE characterizes its filing as a general rate case (GRC). Citing Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 80.28.425, the Company proposes a two-year multiyear rate plan for its base electric rates. The Company's proposed revised tariff sheets provide an effective date of March 16, 2024.
- 2 Specifically, PSE proposes a two-year rate plan for the years 2025 and 2026. In rate year one, PSE seeks a \$192.2 million increase in overall electric revenues. In rate year two, PSE proposes a \$285.2 million increase in overall electric revenues.
- 3 Also on February 15, 2024, PSE filed revisions to its currently effective WN U-2 Tariff for natural gas service, as listed in Appendix B attached to this Order. The Company proposes a similar, two-year rate plan for its base natural gas rates, with revised tariff sheets again providing an effective date of March 16, 2024.

4 Specifically, in rate year one, PSE proposes a \$196.0 million increase in overall natural gas revenue. In rate year two, the Company proposes a \$25.4 million increase to overall natural gas revenue.

5 On March 1, 2024 and again on March 4, 2024, PSE filed revised and supplemental testimony and exhibits following conversations with Commission staff (Staff).

DISCUSSION AND DECISION

6 PSE's requested increase might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public, and PSE has not demonstrated that the increase would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient. Pursuant to RCW 80.04.130(1), the Commission, therefore, suspends the tariff filing and will hold public hearings, if necessary, to determine whether the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

7 The matters in the two dockets appear to involve related facts and principles of law. It is appropriate that they be consolidated for hearing and determination pursuant to WAC 480-07-320.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

8 (1) The Commission is an agency of the state of Washington vested by statute with the authority to regulate rates, regulations, and practices of public service companies, including electric companies and gas companies.

9 (2) PSE is an electric company, a gas company, and a public service company subject to Commission jurisdiction.

10 (3) The tariff revisions PSE filed on February 15, 2024, would increase charges and rates for service provided by PSE and might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public.

11 (4) PSE has not yet demonstrated that the tariff revisions would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.

12 (5) The Commission should exercise its discretion to consolidate Dockets UE-240004 and UG-240005 for hearing.

- 13 (6) In order to carry out the duties imposed upon the Commission by law, and as authorized in RCW 80.04.130, the Commission believes it is necessary to investigate PSE's books, accounts, practices and activities; to make a valuation or appraisal of PSE's property; and to investigate and appraise various phases of PSE's operations.
- 14 (7) The Commission finds that this docket meets the criteria of WAC 480-07-400(2)(b)(i) and that the parties may conduct discovery pursuant to the Commission's discovery rules in WAC 480-07-400 – 425.
- 15 (8) As required by RCW 80.04.130(4), PSE bears the burden to prove that the proposed increases are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient.
- 16 (9) PSE may be required to pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to such an investigation, consistent with RCW 80.20.020.

ORDER

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 17 (1) The tariff revisions Puget Sound Energy filed on February 15, 2024, in Dockets UE-240004 and UG-240005 are suspended.
- 18 (2) Dockets UE-240004 and UG-240005 are consolidated for hearing and determination under WAC 480-07-320.
- 19 (3) The Commission will hold hearings at such times and places as may be required.
- 20 (4) Puget Sound Energy must not change or alter the tariffs filed in this docket during the suspension period unless authorized by the Commission.
- 21 (5) The Commission will institute an investigation of Puget Sound Energy's books, accounts, practices, activities, property, and operations as described above.
- 22 (6) The parties may conduct discovery pursuant to the Commission's discovery rules in WAC 480-07-400 – 425.
- 23 (7) Puget Sound Energy shall pay the expenses reasonably attributable and allocable to the Commission's investigation consistent with RCW 80.20.020.

DATED at Lacey, Washington, and effective March 5, 2024.

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

DAVID W. DANNER, Chair

ANN E. RENDAHL, Commissioner

MILTON H. DOUMIT, Commissioner

Appendix A
WN U-60, Tariff G, Electric Service

39 th Revision Sheet No. 7	Canceling	38 th Revision Sheet No. 7
14 th Revision Sheet No. 7-B	Canceling	13 th Revision Sheet No. 7-B
37 th Revision Sheet No. 24	Canceling	36 th Revision Sheet No. 24
27 th Revision Sheet No. 25	Canceling	26 th Revision Sheet No. 25
28 th Revision Sheet No. 26	Canceling	27 th Revision Sheet No. 26
6 th Revision Sheet No. 26-B	Canceling	5 th Revision Sheet No. 26-B
33 rd Revision Sheet No. 29	Canceling	32 nd Revision Sheet No. 29
39 th Revision Sheet No. 31	Canceling	38 th Revision Sheet No. 31
6 th Revision Sheet No. 31-B	Canceling	5 th Revision Sheet No. 31-B
31 st Revision Sheet No. 35	Canceling	30 th Revision Sheet No. 35
30 th Revision Sheet No. 43-A	Canceling	29 th Revision Sheet No. 43-A
38 th Revision Sheet No. 46	Canceling	37 th Revision Sheet No. 46
19 th Revision Sheet No. 46-A	Canceling	18 th Revision Sheet No. 46-A

37 th Revision Sheet No. 49	Canceling	36 th Revision Sheet No. 49
37 th Revision Sheet No. 50	Canceling	38 th Revision Sheet No. 50
10 th Revision Sheet No. 51-B	Canceling	9 th Revision Sheet No. 51-B
9 th Revision Sheet No. 51-C	Canceling	8 th Revision Sheet No. 51-C
10 th Revision Sheet No. 51-D	Canceling	9 th Revision Sheet No. 51-D
28 th Revision Sheet No. 52-A	Canceling	27 th Revision Sheet No. 52-A
12 th Revision Sheet No. 52-B	Canceling	11 th Revision Sheet No. 52-B
28 th Revision Sheet No. 53-A	Canceling	27 th Revision Sheet No. 53-A
24 th Revision Sheet No. 53-B	Canceling	23 rd Revision Sheet No. 53-B
19 th Revision Sheet No. 53-C	Canceling	18 th Revision Sheet No. 53-C
10 th Revision Sheet No. 53-G	Canceling	9 th Revision Sheet No. 53-G
7 th Revision Sheet No. 53-H	Canceling	8 th Revision Sheet No. 53-H
39 th Revision Sheet No. 54	Canceling	38 th Revision Sheet No. 54
15 th Revision Sheet No. 54-A	Canceling	14 th Revision Sheet No. 54-A

10 th Revision Sheet No. 54-B	Canceling	9 th Revision Sheet No. 54-B
41 st Revision Sheet No. 55	Canceling	40 th Revision Sheet No. 55
21 st Revision Sheet No. 55-A	Canceling	20 th Revision Sheet No. 55-A
36 th Revision Sheet No. 57	Canceling	35 th Revision Sheet No. 57
35 th Revision Sheet No. 58	Canceling	34 th Revision Sheet No. 58
24 th Revision Sheet No. 58-A	Canceling	23 rd Revision Sheet No. 58-A
11 th Revision Sheet No. 58-B	Canceling	10 th Revision Sheet No. 58-B
10 th Revision Sheet No. 58-C	Canceling	9 th Revision Sheet No. 58-C
43 rd Revision Sheet No. 95	Canceling	42 nd Revision Sheet No. 95
18 th Revision Sheet No. 95-A	Canceling	17 th Revision Sheet No. 95-A
20 th Revision Sheet No. 95-B	Canceling	19 th Revision Sheet No. 95-B
19 th Revision Sheet No. 95-C	Canceling	18 th Revision Sheet No. 95-C
12 th Revision Sheet No. 95-C.1	Canceling	11 th Revision Sheet No. 95-C.1
12 th Revision Sheet No. 95-C.2	Canceling	11 th Revision Sheet No. 95-C.2

3 rd Revision Sheet No. 95-C.3	Canceling	2 nd Revision Sheet No. 95-C.3
19 th Revision Sheet No. 95-D	Canceling	18 th Revision Sheet No. 95-D
19 th Revision Sheet No. 95-E	Canceling	18 th Revision Sheet No. 95-E
10 th Revision Sheet No. 95-E.1	Canceling	9 th Revision Sheet No. 95-E.1
1 st Revision Sheet No. 141CEI-A	Canceling	Original Sheet No. 141CEI-A
1 st Revision Sheet No. 141CEI-B	Canceling	Original Sheet No. 141CEI-B
1 st Revision Sheet No. 141CEI-C	Canceling	Original Sheet No. 141CEI-C
1 st Revision Sheet No. 141CEI-D	Canceling	Original Sheet No. 141CEI-D
1 st Revision Sheet No. 141CEI-E	Canceling	Original Sheet No. 141CEI-E
1 st Revision Sheet No. 141CEI-F	Canceling	Original Sheet No. 141CEI-F
1 st Revision Sheet No. 141CEI-G	Canceling	Original Sheet No. 141CEI-G
1 st Revision Sheet No. 141CEI-	Canceling	Original Sheet No. 141CEI-H

H		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-A		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-B		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-C		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-D		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-E		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-F		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-G		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-H		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-I		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-J		
Original Sheet No. 141CGR-K		
Original Sheet No. 141DCARB		
Original Sheet No.		

141DCARB-A		
Original Sheet No. 141DCARB-B		
Original Sheet No. 141DCARB-C		
Original Sheet No. 141DCARB-D		
Original Sheet No. 141DCARB-E		
Original Sheet No. 141DCARB-F		
Original Sheet No. 141DCARB-G		
Original Sheet No. 141DCARB-H		
Original Sheet No. 141DCARB-I		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP-A		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP-B		

Original Sheet No. 141WFP-C		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP-D		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP-E		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP-F		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP-G		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP-H		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP-I		
Original Sheet No. 141WFP-J		
14 th Revision Sheet No. 142	Canceling	13 th Revision Sheet No. 142
14 th Revision Sheet No. 142-A	Canceling	13 th Revision Sheet No. 142-A
11 th Revision Sheet No. 142-B	Canceling	10 th Revision Sheet No. 142-B
11 th Revision Sheet No. 142-C	Canceling	10 th Revision Sheet No. 142-C
15 th Revision Sheet No. 142-D	Canceling	14 th Revision Sheet No. 142-D
11 th Revision Sheet No. 142-E	Canceling	10 th Revision Sheet No. 142-E

11 th Revision Sheet No. 142-F	Canceling	10 th Revision Sheet No. 142-F
11 th Revision Sheet No. 142-G	Canceling	10 th Revision Sheet No. 142-G
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 142-G.1	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 142-G.1
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 142-G.2	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 142-G.2
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 142-G.3	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 142-G.3
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 142-G.4	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 142-G.4
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 142-G.5	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 142-G.5
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 142-G.6	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 142-G.6
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 307-A	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 307-A
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 317-A	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 317-A
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 317-C	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 317-C
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 324-A	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 324-A
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 324-C	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 324-C
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 327-A	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 327-A

4 th Revision Sheet No. 448-H	Canceling	3 rd Revision Sheet No. 448-H
16 th Revision Sheet No. 448-I	Canceling	15 th Revision Sheet No. 448-I
17 th Revision Sheet No. 449-I	Canceling	16 th Revision Sheet No. 449-I
Original Sheet No. 449-I.1		

Appendix B
WN U-2 Tariff, Natural Gas Service

17 th Revision Sheet No. 116-A	Canceling	16 th Revision Sheet No. 116-A
62 nd Revision Sheet No. 123	Canceling	61 st Revision Sheet No. 123
58 th Revision Sheet No. 131	Canceling	57 th Revision Sheet No. 131
12 th Revision Sheet No. 131T	Canceling	11 th Revision Sheet No. 131T
64 th Revision Sheet No. 141	Canceling	63 rd Revision Sheet No. 141
25 th Revision Sheet No. 141-A	Canceling	24 th Revision Sheet No. 141-A
Original Sheet No. 141-B		
12 th Revision Sheet No. 141T	Canceling	11 th Revision Sheet No. 141T
12 th Revision Sheet No. 141T-A	Canceling	11 th Revision Sheet No. 141T-A
Original Sheet No. 141T-B		
18 th Revision Sheet No. 153-B	Canceling	17 th Revision Sheet No. 153-B
25 th Revision Sheet No. 185-C	Canceling	24 th Revision Sheet No. 185-C
23 rd Revision Sheet No. 185-D	Canceling	22 nd Revision Sheet No. 185-D

12 th Revision Sheet No. 185-T	Canceling	11 th Revision Sheet No. 185-T
8 th Revision Sheet No. 185T-A	Canceling	7 th Revision Sheet No. 185T-A
Original Sheet No. 185T-A.1		
25 th Revision Sheet No. 186-C	Canceling	24 th Revision Sheet No. 186-C
19 th Revision Sheet No. 186-D	Canceling	18 th Revision Sheet No. 186-D
8 th Revision Sheet No. 186T	Canceling	7 th Revision Sheet No. 186T
11 th Revision Sheet No. 186T-A	Canceling	10 th Revision Sheet No. 186T-A
26 th Revision Sheet No. 187-D	Canceling	25 th Revision Sheet No. 187-D
Original Sheet No. 187-D.1		
9 th Revision Sheet No. 187T	Canceling	8 th Revision Sheet No. 187T
11 th Revision Sheet No. 187T-A	Canceling	10 th Revision Sheet No. 187T-A
Original Sheet No. 1141DCARB		
Original Sheet No. 1141DCARB-A		
Original Sheet No.		

1141DCARB-B		
10 th Revision Sheet No. 1142-A	Canceling	9 th Revision Sheet No. 1142-A
10 th Revision Sheet No. 1142-B	Canceling	9 th Revision Sheet No. 1142-B
13 th Revision Sheet No. 1142-C	Canceling	12 th Revision Sheet No. 1142-C
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 1142-C.1	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 1142-C.1
2 nd Revision Sheet No. 1142-C.2	Canceling	1 st Revision Sheet No. 1142-C.2