

MINUTES

Thursday, August 8, 2024

9:30 A.M.

PRESENT: David Danner, Chair
Milt Doumit, Commissioner
Ann Rendahl, Commissioner

The regular meeting of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission was called to order on Thursday, August 8, 2024 by Chair Danner. Neiri Carrasco, Director, Regulatory Services, indicated there are no changes to the agenda.

E)1. Consent
00:00 mp4

Disposition: Commissioner Rendahl moved to approve the consent agenda and directs the Secretary to sign orders and/or letters necessary to affect each action. Commissioner Doumit seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0).

Chair Danner recessed the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

Chair Danner reconvened the meeting on August 22, 2024, at 9 a.m.

UTILITIES: No Utilities items for this agenda.

TRANSPORTATION: No Transportation items for this agenda.

OTHER: No Other items for this agenda.

RECESSED:

D)1. 2:58:39 mp4 Docket Number UE-210822; Puget Sound Energy; NOTE: This item will be heard on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 9 a.m. Electric Biennial Conservation Report for 2022-2023, pursuant to WAC 480-109-120(4), describing the Company's achievement of 515,443 megawatt-hours of energy savings at a cost of \$209.5 million over two years. Plan

Appearances: Emily Gilroy, Wesley Franks staff; Gilbert Archuleta, Puget Sound Energy; Kerry Meade, Building Potential; Mike Goetz, NW Energy Coalition

Disposition: Commissioner Doumit moved to issue an order in Docket UE-

210822, finding that Puget Sound Energy has complied with the conservation target requirements in Order 01, Docket UE-210822, and has met the compliance requirements related to conservation targets of the company's 2022-2023 biennial energy efficiency plan, namely that the waiver in RCW 19.285.040(1)(e) applies and that the lingering effects of COVID-19 amounted to events beyond the reasonable control of the company and that it could not have been anticipated or ameliorated, preventing the company from meeting its conservation target.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

Commissioner Doumit moved, in a second motion, to issue an order in Docket UE-210822, finding that Puget Sound Energy has complied with the decoupling targets in Order 01, Docket UE-121697, and that the commission apply the standard in RCW 19.285.040(1)(e) to find that the lingering effects of COVID-19 amounted to events, beyond the reasonable control of the company, that could not have been anticipated or ameliorated, preventing the company from reaching its decoupling conservation target.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

Commissioner Doumit moved, in the third motion, to provide notice of its intent to amend Order 07, Docket UE-121697, to apply the statutory exemption in RCW 19.285.040(1)(e) to the decoupling target of Puget Sound Energy.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

- D)2. 14:59 mp4 Docket Number UG-210823; Puget Sound Energy; NOTE: This item will be heard on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 9 a.m. Gas Biennial Conservation Report for 2022-2023 pursuant to RCW 80.28.380, describing the Company's achievement of 9,126,934 therms of energy savings at a cost of \$52.3 million over two years. Plan

Appearances: Emily Gilroy, Wesley Franks, Josephine Strauss, Liam Weiland, staff; Gilbert Archuleta, Wendy Gerlitz, Jason Kuzma, Puget Sound Energy; Kerry Meade, Building Potential; Mike Goetz, NW Energy Coalition;

Disposition: Commissioner Doumit moved to issue an order in Docket UG-210823, finding that Puget Sound Energy has complied with the biennial reporting requirements in Order 08, Docket UG-170034, and has met compliance requirements of the company's 2022-2023 biennial efficiency plan, in that the commission applies the exemption in RCW 19.285.040(1)(e) and opines that the lingering effects of COVID-19 amounted to events, beyond reasonable control of the utility, that could not have been anticipated or ameliorated, preventing it from meeting its conservation targets.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

Commissioner Doumit moved, in a second motion, to issue a notice in UG-210823 that the commission intends to amend order 08 in Docket UG-170034 to apply the EIA exemption.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

- D)3. 2:43:47 mp4 Docket Number UE-210826; Avista Corporation; NOTE: This item will be heard on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 9 a.m. Electric Biennial Conservation Report for 2022-2023, pursuant to WAC 480-109-120(4), describing the Company's achievement of 84,827 megawatt-hours of energy savings at a cost of \$38.9 million over two years. Plan

Appearances: Emily Gilroy, Liam Weiland, Michael Howard, Josephine Strauss, staff; David Meyer, Avista Corporation;

Disposition: Commissioner Doumit moved that Docket UE-210826 be continued to a later date, to be determined, following the post-hearing briefing in the Avista General Rate Case in Docket UE-240006, and that notice be provided to the parties of potential ex-parte contact.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

- D)4. 1:57:41 mp4 Docket Number UG-210827; Avista Corporation; NOTE: This item will be heard on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 9 a.m. Gas Biennial Conservation Report for 2022-2023 pursuant to RCW 80.28.380, describing the Company's achievement of 1,263,481 therms of energy savings at a cost of \$14.3 million over two years. Plan

Appearances: Emily Gilroy, Sofya Atitsogbe, Liam Weiland, Josephine Struass, staff; David Meyer, Nicole Hydzik, Avista Corporation; Kerry Meade, Building Potential; Mike Goetz, NW Energy Coalition

Disposition: Commissioner Doumit moved to issue an order in Docket UG-210827, finding that Avista Corporation has complied with the reporting requirements in Order 01 in Docket UG-210827, in that with the extenuating circumstances related to the COVID pandemic, therefore has met its conservation targets for its 2022-2023 biennial energy efficiency plan.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

Commissioner Doumit moved, in the second motion, to issue an order in Docket UG-210827, finding that Avista Corporation has complied with the decoupling reporting requirements in Order 01, Docket UG-210827, and further, that the commission applies the exemption in RCW 19.285.040(1)(e) that states events beyond the reasonable control of the utility could not have been anticipated or ameliorated, and therefore prevented it from meeting its target, and that in this case, that did occur, seeing that the COVID-19 lingering effects were in place and

that the company therefore met its decoupling targets under its 2022-2023 biennial energy efficiency plan.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

Commissioner Doumit moved, in the third motion, to issue a notice to amend Order 05 in Dockets UG-140188 and UG-140189, to apply the statutory exemptions in RCW 19.285.040(1)(e), to the decoupling targets in this case.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

D)5. 2:22:49 mp4 Docket Number UE-210830; PacifiCorp; NOTE: This item will be heard on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 9 a.m. Electric Biennial Conservation Report for 2022-2023, pursuant to WAC 480-109-120(4), describing the Company's achievement of 86,961 megawatt-hours of energy savings at a cost of \$34.6 million over two years. Plan

Appearances: Emily Gilroy, Jaclynn Simmons, Liam Weiland, Josephine Strauss, Jennifer Snyder, staff; Joe Dallas, Nancy Goddard, PacifiCorp;

Disposition: Commissioner Doumit moved to issue an order in Docket UE-210830 finding that PacifiCorp has complied with the conservation target requirements in Order 01, Docket UE-210830, and has met the compliance requirements of the company for the conservation targets in the 2022-2023 biennial energy efficiency plan because it has met the statutory exemption in RCW 19.285.040(1)(e) as lingering effects of COVID-19 were beyond the reasonable control of the utility and could not have been anticipated or ameliorated and caused it not to reach its conservation target.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

Commissioner Doumit moved, in the second motion, to issue an order in Docket UE-210830, finding that PacifiCorp has met its decoupling reporting requirements issued in orders in Dockets UE-152253 and UE-210830 and that the commission apply, in this case, the statutory exemption RCW 19.285.040(1)(e), that the lingering effects of COVID-19 amounted to events beyond the company's reasonable control that the company could not have anticipated or ameliorated, preventing the company from meeting its decoupling targets.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

Commissioner Doumit moved, in the third motion, to provided notice of its intent to amend Order 012, in Docket UE-152253, to apply the statutory exemption RCW 19.285.040(1)(e) to the decoupling target performance of PacifiCorp.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

D)6. 9:03 mp4 Docket Number UG-210831; Northwest Natural Gas Company; NOTE: This item will be heard on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 9 a.m. Gas Biennial

Conservation Report for 2022-2023 pursuant to RCW 80.28.380, describing the Company's achievement of 739,694 therms of energy savings at a cost of \$7 million over two years. Plan

Appearances: Emily Gilroy, Joshua Dennis, staff; Laney Ralph, Northwest Natural Gas Company;

Disposition: Commissioner Doumit moved to issue an order in Docket UG-210831 finding that Northwest Natural Gas Company has complied with the reporting requirements in Order 01, Docket UG-210831, and has met the compliance requirements of the company's 2022-2023 biennial energy efficiency plan.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

D)7. 1:23:14 mp4 Docket Number UG-210838; Cascade Natural Gas Corporation; NOTE: This item will be heard on Thursday, August 22, 2024, at 9 a.m. Gas Biennial Conservation Report for 2022-2023 pursuant to RCW 80.28.380, describing the Company's achievement of 1,540,723 Therms of energy savings at a cost of \$19.8 million over two years. Plan

Appearances: Emily Gilroy, Byron Harmon, Josephine Struass, staff; Lori Blattner, Donna Barnett, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation;

Disposition: Commissioner Doumit moved to issue an order in Docket UG-210838 finding that Cascade Natural Gas Corporation has complied with the reporting requirements in Order 01 in Docket UG-210838, taking into account the extenuating circumstances related to the lingering effects of COVID-19 and has met the compliance requirements of the company's 2022-2023 biennial energy efficiency plan.

Chair Danner seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

Attested by _____
Jeff Killip, Executive Director