

MINUTES

Thursday, December 19, 2024

9:30 A.M.

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

The regular meeting of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission was called to order on Thursday, December 19, 2024 by Chairman Danner. Jacque Hawkins-Jones, Acting Director, Regulatory Services, indicated that in item, E25, TG-240922, Island Disposal, Inc., the description was changed.

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).

UTILITIES:

- A)1. 10:17 mp4 Docket Number UE-240729; Puget Sound Energy; Revises Tariff WN U-60, Schedule 141COL, the Colstrip Adjustment Rider, and includes an Annual Report with accompanying attachments. The impact of this filing is an overall increase of \$4.1 million, or 0.14 percent effective January 1, 2025. The typical residential customer using 800 kWh per month would experience an increase to their monthly bill of \$0.18 or 0.16 percent. Tariff Revision

Appearances: David Panco, Nash Callaghan, staff; Susan Free, Eric Englert, Donna Barnett, Puget Sound Energy; Jessica Johanson-Kubin, Public Counsel

Disposition: Commissioner Rendahl moved to issue an Order directing the company to file revised tariff pages by December 23, 2024 with an effective date of January 01, 2025, indicating that the increased rates in this docket are subject to refund and that the Commission will set this matter for hearing, pending the Commission's final determination of appropriate rates in this docket and that approval of the rates, subject to refund, does not represent resolution of any matters raised in this docket. Commissioner Doumit seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

A)2. 55:33 mp4 Docket Number UE-240891; Avista Corporation; Revises Tariff WN U-28, Schedule 99, Colstrip Tracker. The purpose of this filing is to revise Schedule 99 rates to reflect forecasted costs for Colstrip Units 3 and 4 for calendar year 2025. The revised tariff would increase Avista's annual revenues by \$18 million, or 2.7 percent. A typical residential customer using 945 kWhs per month would see an increase of \$4.47 per month, or 4.1 percent. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Chris McGuire, Nash Callaghan, staff; Liz Andrews, Avista Corporation; Jessica Johanson-Kubin, Public Counsel

Disposition: Commissioner Rendahl moved to issue an order:

1. Directing Avista to file revised tariff pages by December 23, 2024 with an effective date of January 01, 2025 indicating the increased rates are subject to refund in this docket.
2. To set the docket for adjudication.
3. Pending the Commission's final determination of appropriate rates, that approval of the rates subject to refund does not represent resolution of any matters raised in this docket.
4. Require the parties to this proceeding to provide a status update to the commission by March 31, 2025.

Commissioner Doumit seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

A)3. 1:24:14 np4 Docket Number UG-240884; Puget Sound Energy; Revises Tariff WN U-2, Schedule 111, Greenhouse Gas Emissions Cap and Invest Adjustment, for the recovery of actual and anticipated costs and the passback of actual and anticipated revenues received from CCA compliant cap-and-invest market operations from January 2023 through December 2024 and return of non-volumetric credits in accordance with Order 1 of UG-230968. The Company also proposes allocating \$7.7 million in no-cost allowance revenues to continue PSE's CCA Decarbonization Program. This revision will decrease Company revenues by \$61 million. A typical residential ratepayer connected to the system as of July 25, 2021, consuming an average 64 therms would see a bill decrease of \$3.51 percent. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Laura Henry, staff; Susan Free, Puget Sound Energy; Tad Robinson O'Neill, Public Counsel; Yochi Zakai, The Energy Project

Disposition: Commissioner Rendahl moved to issue an order:

1. Directing the company to file revised tariff pages by December 23, 2024 with an effective date of January 01, 2025, indicating that the rates, including the true-up of costs included in the filing, are subject to refund as required in the underlying tariff, pending the commission's final determination in Docket No. UG-230968.
2. That the Commission set the matter for hearing.

3. Pending the Commission's final determination of appropriate rates in this docket, and that approval of the rates, subject to refund, does not represent resolution of any matters raised in Docket No. UG-240884.

Commissioner Doumit seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

- A)4. 1:45:00 mp4 Docket Number UG-240885; Northwest Natural Gas Company; Revises Tariff WN U-6 Schedule 308, Washington Climate Commitment Act, for the recovery of actual and anticipated costs and the passback of actual and anticipated revenues received from CCA compliant cap-and-invest market operations from January 2024 through April 2026. This revision will decrease total annual company revenues by \$1.6 million or 1.33 percent. A typical residential ratepayer connected to the system as of July 25, 2021, consuming an average 57 therms would see a bill decrease of \$5.80 per month, or 6.9 percent. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Kody McConnell, staff; Zach Kravitz, Kyle Walker, Northwest Natural Gas Company; Tad Robinson O'Neill, Public Counsel

Disposition: The Commissioners took no action, thereby allowing the proposed Schedule 308 filed on November 15, 2024, to revise Tariff WN U-6 and become effective by operation of law on January 1, 2025.

TRANSPORTATION:

- B)1. 1:55:26 mp4 Docket Number TG-240906; Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc. ; General rate increase request that, as originally filed, would have generated approximately \$1.2 million (2.71 percent) additional annual revenue for the collection of garbage, recycling, and yard waste services. Staff and the Company have agreed to a lower additional annual revenue amount of approximately \$1.1 million (2.49 percent) resulting in lower revised rates. The Company provides regulated solid waste collection service to approximately 61,000 customers in Pierce County. The Company's last general rate increase became effective on October 1, 2022. Tariff Revision

Appearances: Tiffany Van Meter, staff; Brian Vandenburg, Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc.

Disposition: The Commissioners took no action, thereby allowing the Tariff pages filed on November 15, 2024, as revised on December 12, 2024, to take effect January 1, 2025, by operation of law.

- B)2. 1:59:01 mp4 Docket Number TV-240781; Transportation General; Tariff revision to Tariff 15-C increasing the rate band per Docket TV-210812, Order 06.

Staff Investigation

Appearances: Scott Sevall, staff; Jim Tutton, Washington Movers Conference; Larry Nelsen, Hanson Bros Transfer & Storage

Disposition: Commissioner Rendahl moved to issue an Order allowing the Tariff revisions in this docket, as revised by Commission Staff, to take effect January 1, 2025. Commissioner Doumit seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

B)3. 2:39:19 mp4 Docket Number TS-240930; Arrow Launch Service, Inc.; A petition seeking to defer recovery of re-power assets and to establish a surcharge of \$4.93 per hour during the construction phases of the re-power project. Petition for Accounting Order

Appearances: Scott Sevall, staff; Dave Wiley, Arrow Launch Service, Inc.

Disposition: Commissioner Rendahl moved to issue an Order granting the less than statutory notice and allowing Arrow Launch Services, Inc. to defer the costs to re-power vessels for recovery during a future general rate case and allow a surcharge published in a supplement to take effect January 1, 2025, subject to the following conditions:

- Arrow will file for rates within 6 months of receiving the federal funding for the final boat re-powered.
- Arrow will have to account for project costs, federal funding, and funds received through any approved surcharge.
- The surcharge revenue will be maintained in a sub-account and not co-mingled with other revenue.
- The surcharge for the open construction loan will cover only interest and will be calculated at the average interest due for the year.
- Surcharge amount approved for a finalized loan will be for principle and interest, minus operational savings.
- The principle recovered through the surcharge mechanism will offset the asset cost, when the asset is recovered in general rates.
- The amortization period of the re-power assets is 30 years.
- Arrow shall file a report each year that the surcharge is in place, reporting the amount of revenue received from the surcharge, a listing of which assets were completed, and the most recent 12-months' maintenance and fuel costs.

Commissioner Doumit seconded the motion. The motion carried (3:0)

OTHER: No Other items for this agenda.

RECESSED: No Recessed items for this agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Attested by _____
Jeff Killip, Executive Director