

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR PUGET SOUND ENERGY CUSTOMERS ABOUT CHANGES IN ELECTRIC & NATURAL GAS RATES

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) recently filed requests with the state Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) to adjust electric and natural gas rates. The requested changes are proposed to be effective on March 24, 2023. The filings update Electric Schedule 81 Tax Adjustment and Natural Gas Schedule 1 Tax Adjustment to reflect changes approved in the UTC's Final Order in PSE's 2022 general rate case in Dockets UE-220066 and UG-220067 and the UTC Regulatory Fee for PSE and other utilities that became effective on June 9, 2021, as adopted in RCW 80.24.010.

The UTC allows PSE to increase the amount it charges customers for a municipal utility tax levy and also to recover the expenses associated with collection of the municipal utility tax. This is shown on customer bills as the Effect of City Tax and includes the tax rate in a municipal utility tax ordinance, the Washington State Public Utility Tax, the UTC Regulatory Fee, and additional bad debt expenses associated with the collection of the municipal utility tax. PSE does not profit from passing through these adjustments.

Electric Schedule 81 Tax Adjustment: Bad debt expenses decreased by 0.128 percent to 0.720 percent. The UTC Regulatory Fee increased by 0.200 percent to 0.400 percent.

Natural Gas Schedule 1 Tax Adjustment: Bad debt expenses decreased by 0.093 percent to 0.420 percent. The UTC Regulatory Fee increased by 0.200 percent to 0.400 percent.

For customers who need help with their PSE bills, various PSE bill assistance programs, including PSE Home Energy Lifeline Program and the Salvation Army Warm Home Fund, are available to qualified customers to assist with PSE charges. PSE customers can go to <https://www.pse.com> or call **1-888-333-9882** to learn if they are eligible. Payment plans are also available.

Most of the effective rates in Electric Schedule 81 and Natural Gas Schedule 1 are proposed to be changed due to the increase in the UTC Regulatory Fee. An electric residential customer, who uses 800 kWh a month, would experience a monthly increase between \$0.01 and \$0.02 on their bill, depending on the city in which they receive service. A natural gas customer, who uses 68 therms a month would experience a monthly increase between \$0.01 and \$0.02 on their bill, depending on the city in which they receive service. Please visit PSE online at <https://www.pse.com/pages/rates/news-and-filings> or contact PSE at **1-888-225-5773** for information about the changes to your city.

The UTC will review each filing and has the authority to set final rates that may vary from PSE's requests, either higher or lower or structured differently, depending on the results of its review. To comment to the UTC on PSE's requested rate changes: use the online comment form at <http://www.utc.wa.gov/consumers/submit-comment>; email comments@utc.wa.gov; phone **1-888-333-9882**; or write to P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA, 98504-7250. Please include your name, mailing address, the name of the company (PSE), and electric and natural gas docket number(s). If you have questions about the UTC's process, please contact the UTC using one of the above methods. The UTC is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for participants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in the Open Meeting, please contact the Commission at **1-888-333-9882** or email consumer@utc.wa.gov.

The public is represented by the Public Counsel Section of the Washington Attorney General's office and can be reached by writing to Public Counsel, Assistant Attorney General, 800 5th Avenue, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA 98104-3188, or by emailing utility@atg.wa.gov.

To contact PSE about these proposals: email customercare@pse.com; call **1-888-225-5773** (TTY: **1-800-962-9498**); or write to Puget Sound Energy, ATTN: Customer Care, P.O. Box 97034, Bellevue, WA, 98009-9734. Each of the proposed requests can be found online at <https://www.pse.com/pages/rates/pending-utc-filings>.