



March 26, 2024

Filed Via Web Portal

Jeff Killip, Executive Director and Secretary Washington
Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

**RE: Advice No. 2024-15
Puget Sound Energy’s Natural Gas Tariff Revision**

Dear Executive Director Killip:

Pursuant to RCW 80.28.060 and WAC 480-80-101 and -105, please find enclosed for filing the following proposed revisions to the WN U-2, tariff for natural gas service of Puget Sound Energy (“PSE” or the “Company”):

Original	Sheet No. 1141PFG	Participatory Funding Grants Rate Adjustment
Original	Sheet No. 1141PFG-A	Participatory Funding Grants Rate Adjustment (Continued)
Original	Sheet No. 1141PFG-B	Participatory Funding Grants Rate Adjustment (Continued)

The purpose of this tariff filing is to establish a new tariff schedule, Supplemental Schedule 141PFG Participatory Funding Grants Rate Adjustment, which will allow PSE to recover the costs of the Washington Participatory Funding Agreement (“Agreement”)¹ as provided for in RCW 80.28.430(3). The Agreement makes funds available to qualified parties to enable them to advocate on behalf of broad customer interests in proceedings before the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (“Commission”), while prioritizing organizations representing vulnerable populations and highly impacted communities, as those terms are defined in RCW 19.405.020(23) and .020(40).

Pursuant to RCW 80.28.430, utilities must enter into funding agreements with organizations that represent broad customer interests. The Commission is directed to determine the amount of financial assistance, if any, that may be provided to any organization; the way the financial assistance is distributed; the way the financial assistance is recovered in a utility’s rates, and other matters necessary to administer the agreement. The Commission granted requests for case certification and approved proposed budgets for intervenor funding consistent with RCW 80.28.430, as discussed in Order 08 and Order 16/02 in Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, and

¹ Order 02 Approving Agreement Subject to Condition; Requiring Refiling of Modified Agreement in Docket U-210595

UG-210918 (consolidated). The tariff filing is also consistent with Orders 10 and 11 in UE-210795 and Order 02 in Docket U-210595 as well as Order 01 in Dockets UE-220196 and UG-220197. The Company has proposed in Dockets UE-240004 and UG-240005 (Consolidated) to integrate these costs into base rates, as the annual expenses have become negligible to warrant their own standalone tracker. However, the general rate proposal still adheres to the Commission's Orders for funding level and distribution. If the Commission accepts the Company's proposal within the ongoing general rate case, any residual funds over- or under-collected will be distributed through Schedule 140 Property Tax Tracker since it affects all rate schedules including special contracts. In addition, this treatment would be uniform for both electric and gas service.

Overall, this proposal represents a revenue requirement increase of \$94,511 and an average increase for all customers affected by this tariff change, or a 0.01 percent increase in overall bills. A typical residential customer on Schedule 23 using 64 therms per month would experience an increase of \$0.01 per month or 0.01 percent. Bill assistance programs such as PSE's Bill Discount Rate, PSE Home Energy Lifeline Program ("HELP"), the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program ("LIHEAP"), and the Salvation Army Warm Home Fund are available to qualified customers who need help with their energy bills. PSE customers can go to pse.com/assistance or call 1-888-225-5773 to learn if they are eligible. Payment plans are also available.

The tariff sheets described herein reflect an issue date of March 26, 2024, and effective date of May 1, 2024. Posting of proposed tariff changes, as required by law and the Commission's rules and regulations, is being completed through web, telephone and mail access in accordance with WAC 480-100-193. Notice to the public under the provisions of WAC 480-100-194 will be provided within 30 days of the May 1, 2024, effective date.

Please contact Veronica Martin at veronica.martin@pse.com for additional information about this filing. If you have any other questions, please contact me at birud.jhaveri@pse.com.

Sincerely,

/s/ Birud D. Jhaveri

Birud D. Jhaveri
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Puget Sound Energy
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cc: Tad O'Neill, Public Counsel
Sheree Carson, Perkins Coie

Attachments: Natural Gas Tariff Sheets (listed above)
Work Papers

**PUGET SOUND ENERGY
Natural Gas Tariff**

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE 141PFG
PARTICIPATORY FUNDING GRANTS
RATE ADJUSTMENT**

(N)

APPLICABILITY: This Decarbonization Rate Adjustment shall be applicable to all Customers of the Company and will be applied to all bills to Customers during a month when this schedule is effective.

PURPOSE: This schedule implements surcharges to collect costs incurred associated with the Washington Participatory Funding Agreement as provided for in RCW 80.28.430(4).

COST RECOVERY PROCEDURE(S):

- a. This tariff schedule is set to recover expected and incurred costs associated with the Washington Participatory Funding Agreement. Any amounts in any deferred account will include a carrying cost equal to the Company’s authorized rate of return, until the deferral is amortized, at which time it will receive a return at the current FERC rate.
- b. The Company will submit annual filings at least 30 days prior to May 1 for rates effective May 1. Each annual filing will be for rates to be effective from May 1 through the last day of April the following year.

TRUE-UP: Amounts to include in each year’s true-up are:

- a. A true-up will be included for the difference between what was expected to be collected when rates were set the previous year versus the amount actually collected that is due to variances in grant funding agreements.
- b. Following the May 2024 to April 2025 surcharge period there will be a residual amount either owed to or from Customers. The Company has proposed in Dockets UE-240004 and UG-240005 (Consolidated) that the residual amount will be included in its Supplemental Schedule 140 Property Tax Tracker.

If a true-up calculation results in expenses/return being lower or actual revenues being higher than what was used to set rates, the amount will be a reduction to the amount to be otherwise collected under Schedule 141PFG during the current year. If a true-up calculation results in expenses/return being higher or actual revenues being lower than what was used to set rates, the resulting amount will be an addition to the amount to be otherwise collected under Schedule 141PFG during the current year.

(N)

(Continued on Sheet No. 1141PFG-A)

Issued: March 26, 2024
Advice No.: 2024-15

Effective: May 1, 2024

Issued By Puget Sound Energy

By:  Birud D. Jhaveri

Title: Director, Regulatory Affairs

