STATE OF WASHINGTON

Citizens Advisory Committee on

Pipeline Safety

Committee Members

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Andrew Martonick • Corey Herrick • Rosalie Ann Lopez
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November 22, 2011

Dear UTC Commissioners and Interested Parties:

Re: <u>UG-110723 Puget Sound Energy's tariff filing to implement a charge for a Pipeline Integrity Program.</u>

The Citizen's Committee on Pipeline Safety wishes to convey to commissioners, and all parties involved in this tariff filing, that it has a strong interest in seeing actions are eventually taken to encourage PSE's investment in replacing its older steel and plastic (polyethylene) distribution lines with safer, more dependable distribution pipelines at an accelerated pace.

The Committee understands that this filing represents a rate policy discussion that is beyond our scope of knowledge and responsibility. Our mission is the safety of the state's pipeline systems. We believe all the parties share this concern. If this particular case does not result in a replacement investment strategy for PSE, we encourage all parties to continue to work together to find a consensus approach to spurring investment in replacing vintage pipe. We ask the Commissioners to establish a process for such discussions to continue until resolution.

Sincerely,

Tim Sweeney
Chair, Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety

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