



PUGET SOUND PILOTS GENERAL RATE CASE INFORMATION SHEET | TP-250574

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The Public Counsel Unit of the Washington Attorney General's Office advocates for the interests of residential and small business customers of electric, gas, water, transportation, and telecommunications companies regulated by the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC or Commission). Public Counsel advocates on behalf of customers before the Commission and courts regarding utility rates, mergers, business practices, service quality, energy efficiency, safety, and policy matters.

Puget Sound Pilots' Rate Increase Request

On July 29, 2025, Puget Sound Pilots (PSP), an organization representing marine pilots in Puget Sound, filed a general rate case for 2025. Marine pilots are ship captains with special knowledge of crowded or dangerous waterways who board large ships and pilot them in and out of harbors; in this case, Puget Sound. The docket number is [TP-250574](#), and information and public documents can be found on the docket's page on the UTC website.

In this rate case, PSP is seeking:

- An increase of 52.30 percent in pilotage rates, which vary by either the tonnage or length of a ship;
- An increase in pilot compensation, for which the organization has submitted a compensation study;
- To rename a charge, entitled "pilot boat charge," to "Port Angeles Expense Charge," and increase that charge from \$348 per ship to \$700;
- Interim funding for PSP's "pay as you go" pension plan;
- An increase in the per-ship charge used to pay for transportation of pilots to and from work locations, from \$168.20 to \$233.93;
- An increase in the cancellation charge, from \$1,694.04 to \$2,580.02;
- To add a Capital Recovery Charge for various near-term capital projects;
- Various additional charges.

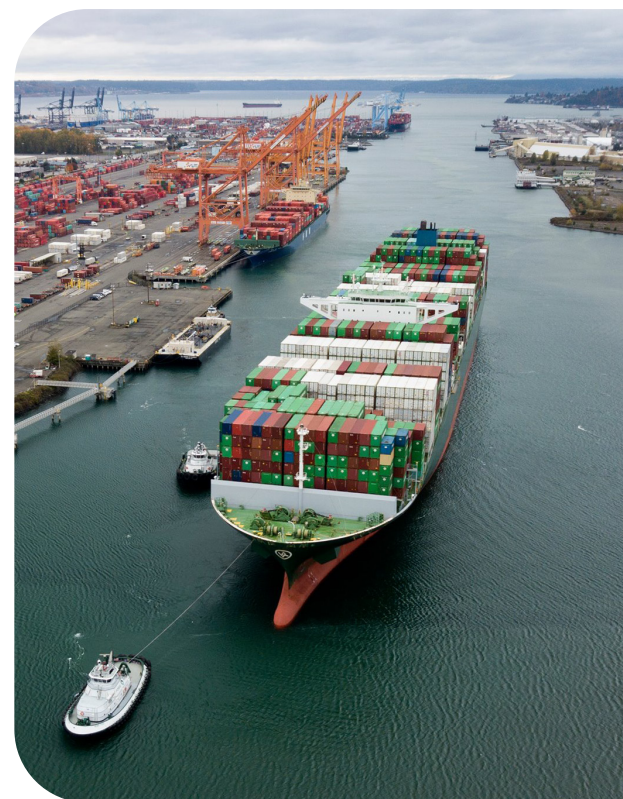
A list of the proposed rate changes, supplied by PSP, is attached at the end of this info sheet, and more information is available in documents found on the docket's page on the UTC website. The total increase to PSP's revenue under its proposal would be from \$42.0 million to \$67.2 million, a 60 percent increase.

The Parties

The UTC considers the recommendations of every party, and no party's recommendation is considered binding. The following parties are participating in this proceeding:

- Puget Sound Pilots
- UTC Staff*
- Washington Attorney General's Office, Public Counsel Unit (residential and small business customer advocate)
- Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

*In formal UTC proceedings, regulatory Staff participates like any other party, and UTC Commissioners make the decision.





Public Counsel's Position

Public Counsel does not currently have a position in this docket.

If you have questions, you can contact Public Counsel by email at: utility@atg.wa.gov, or by mail at:

Attorney General's Office, Public Counsel Unit,
800 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000, Seattle, WA 98104.

Process for Commission Decision

On August 21, 2025, [the UTC issued an order](#) setting the docket for formal adjudication, on the grounds that "PSP's requested increase might injuriously affect the rights and interests of the public, and PSP has not demonstrated that the increase would result in rates that are fair, just, reasonable, and sufficient." The UTC will investigate PSP's books, accounts, practices, and activities, and appraise various phases of PSP's operations before a decision is made.

Submit a Comment Prior to the Public Comment Hearing

The UTC Commissioners appreciate hearing from members of the public about how the Company's proposed rate increases will affect them. The UTC is holding a virtual public comment hearing to take comments on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 6 p.m. You can participate via the Zoom link below or by phone.

Join via Zoom by visiting the link below:

<https://utc-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/86441230482?pwd=sWwGbMbK3a8U2nzR2vXnbw4POdjQnE.1>

Join via phone by calling: (253) 215-8782 and use Meeting ID 864 4123 0482# with Passcode 675698#.

The public can additionally submit comments in the following ways:

- Via UTC web form at: utc.wa.gov/consumers/ (click on "Submit a Comment" link)
- By email at: comments@utc.wa.gov
- By mail at: **UTC, P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250**
- By phone: **1-888-333-WUTC (9882)**

Please include the following in your written comment: your name, mailing address, the name of the company (Puget Sound Pilots), and the Docket Number, TP-250574. For more information, see <http://www.utc.wa.gov/>, or call 1-800-562-6150.



Overall proposed rate changes for pilotage service by price schedule, provided by Puget Sound Pilots:

Item #	Line of Service	Rates			% Increase
		Current	Proposed		
300	Inter-Harbor Vessel Movements				
	Gross Tonnage Charge				
	≤ 2,000 tons	846.00	1,288.46	flat	52.30%
	> 2,000 tons & ≤ 20,000 tons	1,694.04	2,580.02	flat +	52.30%
	> 20,000 tons & ≤ 50,000 tons	0.0788	0.1200	per ton +	52.30%
	> 50,000 tons & ≤ 100,000 tons	0.0728	0.1109	per ton +	52.30%
	> 100,000 tons	0.0669	0.1019	per ton	52.30%
310	Harbor Shifts				
	≤ 2,000 tons	726.00	1,105.70		52.30%
	Vessels < 231.65 meters length	1,451.20	2,210.18		52.30%
	Vessels ≥ 231.65 meters length	1,694.04	2,580.02		52.30%
315	Service Time Charge (STC)				
	≤ 2,000 tons	156.32	238.08	per hour	52.30%
	> 2,000 tons	293.91	447.62	per hour	52.30%
330	Pilot Boat Charge/Port Angeles Expense Charge	348.00	700.00		101.15%
340	Transportation Charge	168.20	233.93		39.08%
350	Cancellation Charge	1,694.04	2,580.02		52.30%
360	Delay, Detention, Stanby & Other	293.91	447.62		52.30%
370	Other Service Charges				
	Carried Out of District Charge	1,000.00	1,523.00		52.30%
	Charge for Additional Services Requested	293.91	447.62		52.30%
380	Special Surcharges				
	BPC Training Stipend	19.00	23.00		21.05%
	Capital Recovery Charge		75.00		