

From: rachel@safyredesign.com
To: [UTC DL Records Center](#)
Subject: Public Comment : UE-160918 and UG-160919
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Public Comment Submission : UE-160918 and UG-160919
Company: Puget Sound Energy
Not in Favor

Millions of Americans took heed of NASA, NOAA, and National Weather Service warnings to evacuate the path of oncoming storms last year, following instruction and expertise to safety. We had the right to stay in our homes, leaving ourselves vulnerable. But no person or business had the right to block exit roads, forcing others to stay in that path of danger. Today, Puget Sound Energy is asking permission to block exit roads. Forcing ratepayers by default to continue using coal and fossil fuel generated electricity for decades to come.

They urge ratepayers to use energy efficiently, while chairing industry gas groups that advocate against the regulation of methane leaks, monitoring, and storage.
Is that "least expensive"? No.

PSE issues press releases stating that state level policy is needed to achieve emission reduction goals, while pumping hundreds of thousands of dollars into the defeat of those very same policies.
Is that in our "best interest"? No.

NASA and US agencies confirmed in the 4th National Climate Assessment, that measurable and rising impacts are worsening without action to reduce emissions. The IPCC, joined by every single nation on this planet, reports huge and rapid change is needed to keep global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius, the lower limit of the Paris Agreement. U.K.'s Meteorological Office warns global temperatures will likely exceed 1 degree Celsius by 2022. FOUR years from now. NASA last month amended sea level estimates to above 2 feet by 2100. NOAA's weather and climate impact costs for 2017 alone rose above \$300 Billion. The Government Accountability Office is warning significant climate risks are leaving us fiscally exposed. From WA DNR, Department of Ecology, to the City of Seattle; risk assessment reports and adaptation plans abound...and Washington state is not immune.

I'm asking the UTC to open the roads of escape for ratepayers by taking full climate and financial reality into account in IRP planning. We must halt the use of coal, and we must not move forward with a plan that swaps one harmful greenhouse gas for another. Token gestures and words are not enough...

"...given what we know today about the future."

Sources:

NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) U.S. Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters (2018).

<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/billions/>

Fourth National Climate Assessment (NCA4)

<https://science2017.globalchange.gov/>

IPCC 5th Assessment Report (AR5), current scientific knowledge climate change.

<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/>

"Climate-change-driven accelerated sea-level rise detected in the altimeter era"

Lead author Steve Nerem, professor of Aerospace Engineering Sciences at the University of Colorado Boulder, fellow at CIRES, NASA's Sea Level Change team.

<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2018/02/06/1717312115>

<https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2018/new-study-finds-sea-level-rise-accelerating>

U.K. Meteorological Office forecasts indicate the annual global average temperature is likely to exceed 1 °C and could reach 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels (2018-2022).

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/seasonal-to-decadal/long-range/decadal-fc>

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/news/releases/2018/decadal-forecast-2018>

DNR Assessment of Climate Change-Related Risks to DNR's Mission, Responsibilities and Operations, 2014-2016

https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/em_climate_assessment010418.pdf?x8u3e

Washington Department of Ecology: Preparing for a Changing Climate Washington State's Integrated Climate Response Strategy

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/1201004.pdf>

American Gas Association: Regulations for Repeal, Modification or Replacement

https://www.aga.org/sites/default/files/aga_05_15_2017_comments_on_epa_rule_review_docket_epa-hq-oa-2017-0190_003_0.pdf

Press Release - PSE to reduce its carbon footprint 50 percent by 2040 (12/15/17)

<https://pse.com/aboutpse/PseNewsroom/NewsReleases/Pages/PSE-to-reduce-its-carbon-footprint.aspx>

PSE contributes to the defeat of state carbon pricing policy

<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/pse-pumps-125000-into-defeating-i-732-carbon-tax-measure/>

Rachel Molloy
18308 NE 107th St, Redmond, WA 98052
Rachel@safyredesign.com
206-931-7052