

**From:** [Mary Paterson](#)  
**To:** [UTC DL Records Center](#)  
**Subject:** written public comment on PSE plan  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 21, 2018 10:14:40 PM

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Dear Commissioners,

I was one of the approximately 40-50 people who signed up to give public comment during the afternoon comment today in Renton, whom there was not time enough for. Here is the statement I would have made if my turn had come:

"Greetings. My name is Mary Cogan Paterson and I live in Lake City, Seattle. I am a 61-year-old white woman who works as an administrator for King County mental health and substance use disorder, and I am taking vacation time to attend this hearing this afternoon. I want to acknowledge my presence here today on the traditional lands and waterways of the Duwamish people, who knew how to live in balance with the earth, air, and water.

"I am here in honor of my ancestors from England, Ireland, and Scotland, especially my grandfather William Paterson whose family were coal miners in area of Scotland between Edinburgh and Glasgow. My great grandfather was killed in a pit in the Craighead mine in 1891 when my grandfather was four months old, so he did not grow up with his father in his life. Miners lives were and are harsh, violent, ultimately demeaning; miners are kept poor by mine owners and shareholders as they wrack their bodies hundreds and thousands of feet below ground to extract a resource that chokes them and, over time, is choking the life out of our mother, the Earth, and the rivers and oceans.

"On behalf of my grandfather and his family, I would like to set the due date for the end of the fossil fuel era not in 2050, 2040, or even 2025, but in 1890.

"I am also here on behalf of my daughter who recently completed a masters degree in environmental engineering, with a focus on air quality. As a gifted math student in high school, she read the book "Hot" and was motivated to use her math skills to do something about climate change. She is principle author of a paper on surface level ozone in the area around Boulder, Colorado, where small scale monitoring of air quality found a correlation between oil and gas extraction that abounds in that region with elevated levels of ozone, a known health hazard -- levels previously hidden in large scale monitoring (<https://cires.colorado.edu/news/oil-and-gas-emissions-major-contributor-bad-ozone-days>). I ask that you keep the dangers of surface-level ozone levels in mind -- as well as methane -- when you consider the impact of gas extraction.

"PSE's liquefied natural gas plant in Tacoma, if allowed to be completed, will help create the infrastructure of natural gas pipelines and terminals that will incentivize natural gas extraction in Colorado and many other states and provinces in North America. We do not want or need this natural gas infrastructure. Natural gas is only "natural" if it's thousands of feet underground. Keep it there!

"Finally (if there is time), I urge the UTC follow the example set by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency in deciding that it needs SEIS to understand the environmental impact of the entire life cycle of liquefied gas, from extraction to transportation to cooling to onloading on to ships as fuel, in order to make a sound decision the LNG plant. If the whole life cycle of the

coal and natural gas sources PSE is proposing is evaluated, we will see (what we already know): we must end the era of fossil fuels now.

Thank you for considering these remarks."

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