From: fbrogert@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Roger Martin
To: Public Involvement (UTC)
Subject: PSE IRP, Dockets UE-2003044 and UG-200305
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 11:40:20 AM

External Email

Dear UTC Commissioners,

The next 20 years are a critical time — to deny this is to deny science and common sense. Puget Sound Energy's draft 2021 Integrated Resource Plan fails to align with 2019's Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) requiring utilities to be 80 percent carbon free by 2030, which must be achieved by building more renewable energy and storage infrastructure sooner, retiring the Colstrip coal plant before 2025, and cancelling the Tacoma LNG and any other planned fossil gas plants, expansions or pipelines.

As Washington's largest, and most expensive, energy utility, Puget Sound Energy will be instrumental to determining if our state can achieve its climate goals. To see PSE's initial draft of this critical 20-year plan include building and expanding fossil fuel infrastructure while exploiting the cost cap loophole in the Energy Transformation Act is frustrating and worrisome; it should not be allowed to stand.

Planning for future investments should involve an equity evaluation that analyzes potential impacts on Treaty rights, communities already experiencing health disparities and high levels of pollution, and communities that have been historically marginalized. This evaluation should span the project's life cycle impacts. Fossil fuel extraction and refining, including fossil gas, has a long and ugly history of harm through land and resource theft; man camps that have been linked to the epidemic of missing and murdered Indigenous women and the disruption of small communities; destruction of habitat and the ability to subsist off the land; and processes that leave behind communities rocked by cancer, birth defects, and other serious health concerns. It's time to leave these practices in the past and invest in less harmful energy.

PSE has been totally dishonest in the past. In justifying their application for permits to operate their LNG facility, they used obsolete data on methane leakage and half-life greenhouse effects. They violated American Indian treaties. They never even mentioned the hazards of building on top of shoreline landfill in the presence of rising sea levels, and worst of all, they never mentioned in their applications that the landfill was sitting on top of the most-likely-to-liquify seafloor on the Puget Sound AND that all this sits directly on top of an earthquake fault that can cause that 1500+ feet of unconsolidated dirt on which their landfill sits to fall into the Sound as if it was on quicksand if there is an earthquake there.

As customers, we have a stake in the harm PSE's energy plans cause to communities, climate, and future generations: by using and paying for the energy we are complicit, and we are demanding better. We are also demanding more transparency in how PSE forecasts future energy demand, inquiry into the validity of construction costs passed onto customers, and a public engagement process that facilitates customers and stakeholders having an actual say in where our money goes and the implications of what powers our homes.

Sincerely,
Roger Martin
3800 A Bridgeport Way W # 543 University Place, WA 98466-4416
fbrogert@yahoo.com