From: editor@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kathryn Wilham
To: Public Involvement (UTC)
Subject: PSE must comply with the law (Dockets UE-2003044 and UG-200305)
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 12:20:36 PM

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.

When I moved from Seattle to Suquamish in 1999, I lost the best public utility company in the west. And was forced into the PSE grid. Now 22 years later, we are all at a critical juncture in the future of this planet. And PSE is planning to ignore reality. Their draft 2021 Integrated Resource Plan does not follow the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) requiring utilities to be 80% carbon free by 2030. I am signed on to receive the small amount of clean green energy PSE offers. It is far from enough; PSE must build more renewable energy and storage infrastructure now, close the Colstrip coal plant, and cancel the Tacoma LNG and their participation in any other planned fossil gas plants, expansions, or pipelines.

I live on the Suquamish reservation, and my Tribal neighbors have educated me intensively on the dangers continuing down the path we have been on the past 60+years. Planning for future investments should involve analyzes of 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. As an unwilling customer of this corporation, II have a stake in the harm PSE's energy plans cause to communities, climate, and future generations.

I also want you to make sure there is 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,
Kathryn Wilham
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