

From: [Gary Piazzon](#)
To: [UTC DL Records Center](#)
Subject: PSE's IRP
Date: Friday, February 23, 2018 5:13:31 PM

Utilities Trade Commission

Dear Commissioners,

Thank-you for extending the deadline to submit comments on PSE's Integrated Resource Plan. Clearly the IRP must include shutting down the remaining Colstrip plants by 2025 and PSE must move vigorously to renewables, conservation and abandonment of their illegal, dangerous LNG plant in Tacoma.

King Coal is dying and good reasons. As the film "From the Ashes" describes Colstrip has a health disaster for the community there. Their water is polluted and asthma and cancer rates are very high. They must import their water from the Yellowstone river 50 miles away due to contamination by the plant. It is the largest source of carbon pollution in the west.

PSE's IRP will not allow our state to meet the goals of the Paris Climate Accords which calls for a 80 to 95 percent cut in carbon pollution by 2050. This target all but requires a grid made of 100 percent clean energy.

PSE a foreign owned company has forged ahead ignoring public process, without all the necessary permits and in defiance of the Puyallup Tribe's wishes to build a monstrous 8 million gallon liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal in Tacoma. Fortunately the Puget Sound Clean Agency recently announced it will conduct a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)

to analyze the project's climate impact.

The future is not in fossil fuels. That has been abundantly clear for some time. The age of consequences for climate inaction is clearly here. 2017 tied 2012 for the most weather related disasters costing more than a billion dollars at 16. This has been climbing. The norm for the previous century was 3-4/year. This century it is 9-10/year. Just this week East Lansing, MI where my wife went to school, is flooded. More rain is in the forecast. The Weather Channel calls the flooding in the midwest "meteorological madness". Last year's three hurricanes alone cost more than \$300 billion. These numbers do not include the human costs. Lack of clean water, sufficient electricity and employment have caused 5- 6 million people to leave Puerto Rico post Maria. Puerto Rico like Syria is a poster child for climate inaction. Until now, the fossil fuel industry, using tactics of the tobacco industry before them, have effectively

controlled the conversation and forestalled prudent government action.

The 4 Most Important Numbers In the World which the industry has been effective in keeping hidden from most Americans are 300, 350, 411, 490...all levels of CO2 in the atmosphere.

- 300= level above which humans have not experienced till the 20th century,
- 350= the level climatologists agree should not be exceeded to have a manageable climate system,
- 411= where we are now,
- 490 = with methane factored in as a CO2 equivalent.

Clearly we cannot continue to commit to this path. As a physical therapist I am concerned about health and well being. Every health organization in the US and abroad recognizes that global warming driven by carbon pollution is our number one health risk which is why the American Public Health Association declared 2017 the year of Climate and Health.

As the Draw Down Project demonstrates, we have effective solutions. We only need courage and wisdom to implement them. As 10 year old Felix Finkbeiner says, "If we follow the climate scientists and act now and find out in 20 years that they were wrong, we did not make a mistake. But if we follow the climate-skeptics and don't act and find out they were wrong, it will be too late to save our future."

"Failure to act in the face of climate change will be seen by the future as child abuse." -Lise Van Susteren, psychiatrist ,Advisory Board member, Center for Health and the Global Environment, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

We can no longer ignore the fierce urgency of now. Problems don't go away if you ignore them. It is clear that a careful examination of the evidence makes it clear PSE is committed to dirty energy which is understandable from a short term business only perspective. Polluting for free is where the profits have been for this industry but this will not last. A price on carbon pollution coming. When that happens and the carbon bubble bursts there will be many stranded assets.

We have a real opportunity to make a course deviation to plot a new path towards a manageable, resilient future. PSE's current IRP will be an RIP for our future.

Thank-you

Gary Piazzon PT, ret.
Whidbey Environmental Action Network, president

PO Box 53

Langley, WA

98249

360-678-5131