From:
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 To:
 UTC DL Records Center

 Subject:
 UE-160918 and UG-160919

**Date:** Saturday, February 17, 2018 1:24:07 PM

I urge PSE to **officially commit** to ending its stake in Montana's Colstrip coal plant, the single largest source of carbon pollution in the American West. PSE's current energy plan makes no commitments to ending its use of the Colstrip plant. Although PSE made headway on cutting ties with coal when it agreed to shutter the plant's largest coal units by 2022 and pay off its outstanding debt on the plant by 2027, there is still no firm deadline for ending the use of coal. PSE's 20-year plan suggests PSE intends to run the plant through 2035.

PSE's plan to continue operating Colstrip could also cost Western Washington families. PSE's own analysis shows that retiring Colstrip by 2025 and replacing it with cheaper power would save PSE \$150 million. King County and the cities of Seattle and Olympia have called on PSE to get off coal by 2025; PSE could do that as part of this planning process but has chosen not to.

PSE should not trade in one fossil fuel (coal) for another (gas). As PSE ends its commitments to coal, the utility's IRP makes huge investment in new gas plants in the coming years, building nearly four times as much gas capacity as wind and solar. Customers will take on all the financial risk of these gas plants, whether through rising prices due to volatile fuel costs or a price on carbon emissions.

The LNG plant in Tacoma is being built without permits and in opposition to the Puyallup tribe's expressed wishes. The plant is a grave threat to nearby communities. By building this facility, PSE locks the Northwest into decades of reliance on dirty fuels. **I oppose** the construction of PSE's LNG plant in Tacoma.

Washington state is making strides toward a clean energy future; PSE should not apply the brakes to that progress, but rather hit the accelerator.

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