

From: [Kathy Sharp](#)
To: [UTC DL Records Center](#)
Subject: Docket Nos. UE-160918 and UG-160919. - Public Comment
Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 11:29:29 AM

To Members and Staff of the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission:

My name is Kathryn Sharp. I am a citizen in Bothell, a PSE customer, a retiree from Puget Sound Energy and its predecessor company, Washington Natural Gas, and a clergyperson with Community of Christ. An important tenet in my faith tradition is protecting the sacredness of creation. As a PSE customer, my husband and I are enrolled in PSE's "Green Power program," paying additional fees to go green in our power and fuel.

I am commenting on the current Integrated Resource Plan being submitted to the UTC for approval for the next 20-year energy plan. I am shocked to see that PSE plans to continue to rely on coal from the Colstrip coal plant in Montana. There is no "clean coal." Coal is a dirty, polluting, health-threatening, costly energy source that has been outmoded for the past 25 years. It is damaging those who extract it, those who transport it and those who live along its transportation byways. Coal damages people and the planet when it is converted into energy—no matter where that occurs. We are one planet, so that environmental damage circulates around the earth. There is no way coal prices competitively against clean fuels unless the financial analysis ignores the detrimental environmental and disease impacts it creates. By this time, as PSE serves customers in the center of abundant, clean hydropower and alternative clean fuels such as wind and solar, PSE should live up to its stated environmental values and swear off the production, sale or use of coal as an energy source ANYWHERE in the WORLD by 2025 or earlier. It should not be continued in its Integrated Resource Plan for the next 20 years.

If Puget Sound Energy were serious about maximizing clean fuels, it would have aggressive marketing campaigns to its customers to switch to clean fuels, even if it costs a slight surcharge. PSE is not assertively or sophisticatedly promoting and marketing this switch to the Green Power Program. Our family only became aware of the option because a contracted (non PSE employee) came to our home with a clipboard and limited information on a Saturday when we happened to be home. We signed up and received later confirmation from PSE that we were legitimately enrolled in their Green Power Program.

As a final question, if PSE's customers were directly asked to pay a surcharge to adequately reflect the cost of using coal or fracked natural gas (and building new gas production plants) for their energy—say at a rate of \$20/month more (instead of \$6 surcharge for clean energy)—how many customers do you think would choose the fossil fuels option? This should tell us all something.

Don't make us pay for dirty, climate-warming energy options that we don't need, when better modern solutions for the future are widely available, scalable and more cost effective. Our area wants to observe the Paris Climate Accords, and this IRP will make that impossible.

Thank you for listening. I look forward to listening to your response. See you at the Feb. 21 hearing.

Kathryn Sharp

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