

Chiles, Pam (UTC)

From: Jacob Mutter (jake.mutter64@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message <automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 11:36 AM
To: Records Management (UTC)
Subject: Protect Our Climate Future (Docket #200304 and #200305)

Categories: PC

External Email

Dear Washington UTC,

Meeting an 80% fossil fuel free energy supply by 2030 as required in the Clean Energy Transformation Act is a daunting task, and if Puget Sound Energy is to meet that goal then every dollar spent on infrastructure needs to be in pursuit of making that transition. Unfortunately, the current plan makes it clear that PSE doesn't intend to even try. Not only is this plan blatantly flaunting the laws that represent the will of Washington State citizens to have a fossil free energy future, but will ultimately be more expensive for all of us, including PSE, as the consequences of not making this transition will threaten the stability of our environment which has enabled the prosperity of humans in recent history. There is a clear easy path, which is the one PSE seems intent on taking, but it is not the right path, the one that will radically change the quality of life for all Washington citizens and secure a livable future for our future generations. I urge you to use your oversight to make sure PSE does their part in keeping Washington on the right path and averting the most catastrophic consequences of climate change.

I am writing to ask the Utilities and Transportation Commission to not allow Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to build new gas power plants for their long-range electricity plan and to reduce their use of gas for the long-range gas plan.

According to the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), natural gas is far more damaging to the climate than previously thought. Gas may be as bad as coal for the climate. And natural gas certainly is not "natural" when the impacts of hydraulic fracturing or "fracking" to extract gas is poisoning groundwater in communities across the country.

Our new 100% clean electricity law -- the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) -- requires all utilities to be 80% fossil fuel free by 2030 and 100% by 2045. The last thing we need to do is build new gas power plants that would be around for decades. The intent of CETA is to wind down on gas power in our electricity, not ramp it up.

Our new state law that establishes science-based fossil fuel reductions that come from the IPCC, call for 95% reductions by 2050 and 70% reductions by 2040. Yet PSE's long-range plan for its gas utility shows virtually no reductions for the next 20 years. PSE fails to follow recommendations in Washington's new State Energy Strategy that identifies moving buildings from gas to electricity as a key strategy for climate protection.

Enough is enough. PSE must take climate change seriously before it is too late. Please reject PSE's electricity and gas plans.

Sincerely,

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This message was sent by KnowWho, as a service provider, on behalf of an individual associated with Sierra Club. If you need more information, please contact Lillian Miller at Sierra Club at core.help@sierraclub.org or (415) 977-5500.