

## Mak, Chanda (ATG)

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**From:** Vicki Lockwood <ldlockwood@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 22, 2020 11:13 AM  
**To:** ATG WWW E-mail Public Counsel; Comments@utc.wa.gov; LeaseServices@pse.com  
**Subject:** Public Comment re:2020 PSE Water Heater Sale, Docket #UG-20012

I am opposed to the sale of PSE's lease water heaters to Grand HVAC Leasing USA LLC for the following reasons:

1. **The buyer company is a foreign-based business:** Grand HVAC Leasing USA LLC is a subsidiary of a mother company headquartered in Ontario, Canada. Subsidiaries do not make policy or resolve legal issues ... the headquarter office does these things. It is extremely expensive and time-consuming for a consumer to resolve business issues across national borders.
2. **The residual buyout amount (\$1,147.96 as of 5/21/2020):** I have had a continuous lease with the utility for approximately 56 years. My residual buyout amount was calculated as if I was a new lessee in Oct. 2018. Originally these leases were priced to allow the utility to recoup their investment in 12 years; equipment that lasted more than 12 years provided a profit for the utility. My first water heater lasted approximately 22 years, the 2nd lasted 33+ years, and the 3rd (the one I have now) was installed in Oct. 2018. The utility has realized a 21+ year profit from our lease agreement. In addition, concurrent with my 2018 tank replacement I was required to pay \$284.90 for the addition of an expansion tank. (The utility had failed to add that extra tank at their expense when such tanks became mandatory decades ago. In order to meet current codes in 2018, I was required to pay for that tank.) I believe I should be given credit toward my buyout balance for the many years that the utility realized a profit from our lease agreement and that I should be credited against my buyout amount for my cost to install the expansion tank. The utility did provide free service calls for their leased equipment. The record will show that in the 50+ years of my lease, there have been 3 service calls ... each one resulted in a replacement water heater.

If the sale is approved, I ask that:

1. there be no residual payment required for the equipment in my home
2. my lease termination be executed solely by PSE (I made the agreement with them, and I believe I should be allowed to terminate that agreement without involving the new buyer)
3. PSE be required to immediately remove the lien against my home to protect their interest in the water heater

Thank you for considering my objections to this sale. If approved, I look forward to a satisfactory resolution of my issues.

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