

UG-141169 UE-141170
BATCH #2

Wyse, Lisa (UTC)

From: Syrowitz, Jennifer <jsyrowitz@audubon.org>
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:57 PM
To: Wyse, Lisa (UTC)
Subject: Dockets UE-141170 and UG-141169 - 575 Public Comments on behalf of Audubon Washington
Attachments: Audubon Colstrip Comments.xlsx

STATE OF WASH.
UTILITY AND ENERGY
COMMISSION

2016 FEB - 1 AM 9:51

Dear Chairman Danner and Commissioners Jones and Rendahl:

I am writing to ask that you reject any long-range energy plan from Puget Sound Energy that does not include a retirement plan for the Colstrip coal plant in Montana. It is time to move Washington beyond coal, and invest in renewable energy alternatives that will service growing populations in the Pacific Northwest in a sustainable way. I am concerned about the long term consequences of using coal as an energy source. Science from the National Audubon Society indicates that more than half of North American bird species are severely threatened by climate change.*

The pollution caused by coal and other fossil fuel extraction, processing, distribution, and combustion is contributing to ever increasing global temperatures. Colstrip gives off more carbon than any other power plant in the region, emitting nearly 15 million tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year. Retiring Colstrip is the single largest carbon pollution reduction available in the entire Northwest.

I ask that you not spend money on an antiquated, out-of-state, and increasingly expensive coal plant, but instead invest money into innovative, renewable energy technologies right here in Washington, creating thousands of jobs, and improving the health of our communities.

Please require Puget Sound Energy to develop a plan that will transition Washington off coal and invest in a clean energy future for the benefit of birds and people. Thank you for helping to create a world where birds and people prosper.

Sincerely,

Gail Gatton, Executive Director, Audubon Washington, and attached signers (please see attached list of names and addresses)

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