

Huey, Lorilyn (UTC)

From: Doyle, Samantha (UTC)
Sent: Thursday, January 19, 2023 3:15 PM
To: UTC DL Records Center
Subject: FW: Recent Natural Gas Decarbonization workshop - my general comment

U-210553

Good afternoon,

Please add this to the Decarb docket UG-210553.

Thanks!
Sam

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From: Donna Albert <donna.albert@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 10, 2023 8:32 AM
To: Doyle, Samantha (UTC) <samantha.doyle@utc.wa.gov>
Subject: Recent Natural Gas Decarbonization workshop - my general comment

External Email

Samantha - Thank you for the important work you do at UTC. As a former state employee, I appreciate your public service.

I attended the SSG workshop intended for the Advisory Group about a week or so ago. I couldn't attend the one I think was intended for the public — I believe the content was the same. I'm a retired engineer, trying to participate in this Natural Gas Decarbonization workshop process.

I am unable to find a draft report by SSG, and unable to make useful comments. My main concerns:

There was detailed and excellent work done in the WA State Dept of Commerce 2021 Energy Strategy, incorporating many public comments, which does not appear to be the basis of SSG's work.

If I understand your deadlines, a final report is expected soon. Because I have not seen a detailed draft on which to make useful comments, I have been unable to give my input. The Miro board is great for brainstorming at early stages, but not for collecting specific responses to a technical report.

I believe when developed and analyzed, some alternatives I saw in the SSG presentation will not result in sufficient or economical decarbonization of services currently provided by natural gas, but without details I would have to make too many assumptions in order to write comments. For that reason, you do not have my comments on this yet.

ALL of the alternatives described in the report must describe economical and effective decarbonization strategies that will result in complying with state GHG limits. Your starting point for this is the 2021 Energy Strategy.

In this Natural Gas Decarbonization workshop process, I expected to see multiple practical strategies and pathways developed to implement the electrification of most services currently provided by natural gas (other than electricity generation) - each one with scope, funding methods, and decarbonization schedules, and environmental and equity considerations. There is so much that needs to be worked out and thought through, especially the environmental and

equity aspects of various strategies. I see none of that. How can legislators be expected to implement vague and undefined high-level decarbonization pathways, with none of these practical considerations laid out for them?

I'm very concerned we will fail to plan and implement effective, timely and equitable decarbonization of the services currently provided by natural gas. Getting this right is much more important than meeting the deadline for releasing the final report.

Sincerely,
Donna Albert, PE (retired), MCE, LEED-AP
Montesano, WA