

## **PSE IRP Testimony**

### **Docket Nos. UE-160918 and UG-160919**

Hi my name is Greg Saul and I'd like to thank the commissioners for allowing us to testify. I've been a PSE customer for 27 years and currently reside in Olympia. I am a volunteer with the group "People for a Carbon Free Thurston". You may have heard about us as "People for Carbon Free Olympia", but since the cities of Lacey and Tumwater have expressed interest in partnering with us to create a regional Climate Action Plan we have updated our organization name to be more inclusive. If only PSE could be more inclusive and respectful of our communities, cities, counties, and state's desires to achieve a 100% renewable energy electricity generation plan. This current 20 year plan should be rejected as insufficient and out-of-touch with the current transformational times we live in with respect to electricity generation. It is especially appalling that after agreeing to paydown the Colstrip debt by 2027, this plan still shows it operating until at least 2035. Haven't they heard the loud chorus from their rate payers to close the plant by 2025? The plan also incorrectly assumes that we need more gas plants. We don't. PSE has a "bad gas plan" that would bring in fracked gas to the Northwest. If you include the loss of methane from the distribution system to the users home or business, studies show that "natural" and its not natural its fracked gas, is more polluting than coal. It is no "bridge" fuel, it is a dirty smelly fuel and we want no more of it. It is totally preposterous that PSE would be given the green light from this plan to make a profit from building new fracked gas plants, and then have the rate payers carry all the risk from passed thru rising gas prices and future impacts of a carbon tax. What's more PSE has the gall to manufacture a need and then illegally construct the LNG terminal in Tacoma. I request that the UTC use its powers to prevent PSE from constructing any new fracked gas infrastructure and that includes the LNG terminal.

On a final positive note, I suggest that the UTC show leadership on the policy front with the legislature to embrace an approach where all our gas and electric utilities in the state of WA can make a decent return from reducing their customer's use of gas and electricity from enhanced energy retrofits and conservation. We need to do more than replace CFLs with LED light bulbs.

Thank you very much.

Greg Saul  
3103 31st Ct SE  
Olympia, WA 98501  
[gwsaul@comcast.net](mailto:gwsaul@comcast.net)