

Dear Commissioners,

This is a comment on PSE's 2017 Integrated Resource Plan, Docket numbers UE-160918 and UG-160919.

As Washington state's largest utility, you have the opportunity to become national leaders in renewable energy, customer satisfaction, sustainable job creation and economic development. While I commend you for retiring two of your Colstrip plants, keeping the other two and switching to natural gas will only distance you from your potential as energy leaders. It is time that you use your power and influence to leave a sustainable legacy for future generations, instead of contributing to their downfall.

Regardless of your beliefs on climate change, you simply cannot ignore the impending death of the fossil fuel industry and the growing potential of renewable fuels at every level. Natural gas is only a band-aid that will further alienate your rate payers when prices fluctuate. Fracking will put workers at risk, and we have only scratched the surface of how it will affect the health of everyone involved. And this resource will run out. You are left with promising your employees forever careers in renewables that will preserve their health and safety, or promising that they will be left jobless and unhealthy when fossil fuels run out. Your choice.

The longer you prolong real innovation, the further you will fall behind when your rate payers take control of their power and move on to renewable energy. It is only becoming less expensive and more efficient.

Do you want to be an example of the perils of choosing to stay on the wrong side of history, or do you want to be a catalyst in securing the Puget Sound and United States as leaders of a sustainable future?

Signed,

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