From: Robert Kenny

To: Public Involvement (UTC)
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Please defend the public interest and reject PSE's bogus and weak plan to reduce its climate pollution by 50 percent by 2040, and accept only a plan that commits it to a path toward a 100% clean energy future, including getting Colstrip off PSE's grid by 2025 and excluding new fossil fuel infrastructure, including fracked LNG.

The current plan is an unambitious target that leaves the state well short of its climate goals -- a thingy is commitment that simply reiterates changes to PSE's energy mix that were going to happen anyways of still doesn't put the Washington's largest utility on a path to meet the state's obligations under the parish climate Accords and Gov. Jay Inslee's goal of 80 to 95 percent greenhouse gas reductions across sector of the state's economy by 2050. And it still provides cover for PSE to build new fracked gas flired plants that may be just as bad as coal when upstream methane leaks are taken into account.

With a clear conflict of interest, CEO Kimberly Harris, who recently became the Chair of the Board of Directors of the American Gas Association, a national fossil fuel advocacy group, is committed to fracking and severe pollution, not to addressing climate. Australia-based MacQuarie Group, which owns 42 percent of PSE, is one of the top gas traders in North America and stands to profit from new gas investments by one of its subsidiaries.

Roughly two-thirds of PSE's coal is legally required to be retired soon: Colstrip Units 1 and 2 by 2022 and the Transalta plant by 2025, meaning that PSE can likely meet *their* 50 percent emissions reduction under the status quo. That's not good enough for *our citizens*.

This is more smoke and mirrors than an actual commitment to get off dirty fossil fuels, reduce climate pollution and meet our state's climate goals. This plan to retire these units and the Transalta plant still gives PSE enough breathing space to build new fracked gas plants and doesn't involve ending their use of Colstrip, the dirtiest coal plant in the American West and the largest source of carbon pollution in the NW, until 2035 or later. It's impossible to meet our state's responsibilities under the Paris Climate Accords under this plan. We need better than this greenwashing from our state's largest utility.

PSE plans to sacrifice community safety and health, ratepayer money and Puyallup Tribal land for an LNG terminal in Tacoma that we don't need, as well as build new fracked gas plants.

According to Jess Koski, Puget Sound Organizer for the Sierra Club's Beyond Coal campaign, "Any climate plan that allows the construction of new fracked gas plants isn't much of a climate plan. Methane, a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide, leaks at every step of the fracking process - from extraction, to transport to burning at the power plant. As states like Oregon and California put the brakes on new gas investments and look at replacing existing gas plants with clean energy, this plan is a half-solution at a time when we need bold leadership."

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