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State Of WASH.
UTIL. AND TRANSP.
COMMISSION

February 26, 2022

Amanda Maxwell
Executive Director and Secretary
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Re: Comments on Puget Sound Energy's 2021 Clean Energy Implementation Plan (Docket UE-210795)

Dear Ms. Maxwell,

My name is Fran Korten and I live on Bainbridge Island, WA.

I am a member of Climate Action Bainbridge, which supports our community in making the transition to clean energy. My city has embraced an ambitious Climate Action Plan which targets a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 90% (compared to 2014 levels) by 2045, and by 25 percent by 2025.

My community is enacting many local actions to reach its ambitious goals. But a major source of our greenhouse gases is our electricity use. We are entirely dependent on Puget Sound Energy for our electricity. Yet we have little control of the speed at which Puget Sound Energy acquires renewable energy and implements programs to reduce demand.

I am also a member of the Washington Clean Energy Coalition and have followed our members' scrutiny of PSE's Clean Energy Implementation Plan. Our group has concluded that PSE is dragging its feet in making the clean energy transition. What we want is real leadership from our utility that recognizes the urgency of the climate change threat.

I urge the Utilities and Transportation Commission to take several key steps to accelerate PSE's transition to clean energy.

- Require PSE to incorporate into their CEIP data that recognize the effects of climate change. Their temperature projections do not currently recognize the significant shifts that have been occurring over the last 20 years. Yet climate change is the compelling reason we need to make the transition in our energy systems.
- Require PSE to speed up its programs to reduced electricity demand, such as by broadly implementing Time Varying Rates and Demand Response.

- Require PSE to speed up its acquisition of solar and wind resources and battery storage and facilitate its customers acquiring rooftop solar and batteries.

By speeding up these programs, PSE can avoid building a very expensive gas-powered plant, as specified in their 2021 Integrated Resource Plan. In our efforts to get off of fossil fuels, the idea of building a new gas-powered plant is simply outrageous.

With the passage of our State's Clean Energy Transformation Act, the UTC is being asked to play a new role in regulating the elements that enable a rapid transition to clean energy in our state. I hope the agency can step up to leadership in this new role

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Fran Korten
Climate Action Bainbridge
Bainbridge Island WA