

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION****Dockets UE-170033 and UG-170034  
Puget Sound Energy  
2017 General Rate Case****PUBLIC COUNSEL DATA REQUEST NO. 006****PUBLIC COUNSEL DATA REQUEST NO. 006:**

**Re: Direct Testimony of Booga K. Gilbertson, Exhibit No. BKG-1T.**

Has Puget Sound Energy evaluated the potential for Distributed Generation to respond to the need to upgrade its distribution system to respond to new growth or to replace or upgrade aging infrastructure? If so, provide such analysis or reports that reflect this approach.

**Response:**

Puget Sound Energy (“PSE”) has incorporated Distributed Generation (“DG”) alternatives into our planning process for many years. Examples include the energy storage pilot at the Glacier Substation and non-wire alternatives including DG for the future Energize Eastside project. (The Energize Eastside project is not yet in service nor included in this rate case.)

In general, the maturity of DG technology and grid readiness create challenges to implementing more widespread DG as an alternative to system improvements. Foundational systems such as two-way communication, Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (“SCADA”) expansion, and an Advanced Distribution Management System will improve viability for these types of alternatives while PSE continues to learn from initial pilots like the Glacier Substation project.

Regarding PSE’s energy storage project at the Glacier Substation, PSE has constructed a utility-scale energy storage project with 2 MW capacity in the town of Glacier, in Whatcom County, and is working to complete the operational functionality within the distribution system to provide for isolation. This pilot will help to test the benefits of DG and local islanding.

PSE continues to evaluate small generator interconnection requests and monitor the approximately 4,000 net-metering technologies installed by customers to understand impact to operations, the system, and demand.