Greetings Amanda Maxwell and fellow Washington Utilities and Transportation Commissioners,

I am writing today as a concerned parent and teacher of young children asking you to support Washington Clean Energy Coalition’s recommendations for changes in PSE’s Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP).

We are on a critical timeline to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors to preserve a livable planet for all. CETA mandates this change in our WA energy sector, and PSE must comply. Methane from Fossil Gas is a particularly potent offender. On the other hand, distributed and grid renewables with battery backups are the most resilient, least expensive option available toward this goal.

Please consider the following recommendations for changes to the PSE 2021-25 CEIP:

1) To reduce peak demand, require PSE to expedite and expand their Demand Response and Time Varying Rates programs.

2) To reduce price volatility and GHG emissions, require PSE to accelerate acquisition of new renewable clean energy resources.

3) To increase the resiliency of the electric system, require PSE to increase programs that encourage local solar and battery installations.

4) To reflect future capacity needs more accurately, require PSE to revise temperature modeling to reflect the changing climate and then resubmit their CEIP.

The idea behind these recommendations is that more aggressive demand reduction would avoid the
need to build additional capacity to cover peak loads (such as a new gas-powered peaker plant). PSE should cover much of its base load with renewable resources, and then use existing gas plants to serve occasional peak needs.

Faster acquisition of renewable resources will also help protect against potential price increases. Gas prices are volatile, have been rising recently, and are likely to remain high. Renewables are cheaper and less vulnerable to price swings than gas, which is affected by supply limitations and political instability.

Please implement these requirements so PSE will be compelled to meet both the goals and the intent of CETA to reduce emissions and help stabilize our global climate systems. We must meet this moment to safeguard our future!

Sincerely,
Devon Kellogg and Family