

EXHIBIT NO. _____ (TMP-6)
DOCKET NOS. UE-170033/UG-170034
2017 PSE GENERAL RATE CASE
WITNESS: THOMAS MICHAEL POWER

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,

Complainant,

v.

PUGET SOUND ENERGY,

Respondent.

DOCKETS UE-170033 and UG-170034
(Consolidated)

EXHIBIT TMP-6 TO PREFILED RESPONSE TESTIMONY
(NON-CONFIDENTIAL) OF THOMAS MICHAEL POWER
ON BEHALF OF NW ENERGY COALITION, RENEWABLE NORTHWEST, AND
NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

JUNE 30, 2017

BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Dockets UE-170033 and UG-170034
Puget Sound Energy
2017 General Rate Case**

NWEC-RNW-NRDC DATA REQUEST NO. 010

NWEC-RNW-NRDC DATA REQUEST NO. 010:

Does PSE intend that funds in the retirement account it is proposing in this docket be used for decommissioning and remediating Colstrip units 3 and 4, when those units retire? If it is not PSE's current intention to utilize the proposed retirement account in this manner, is it possible that retirement account funds will be put to this purpose?

Response:

No, Puget Sound Energy ("PSE") does not intend that funds in the retirement account it is proposing in this docket be used for decommissioning and remediating Colstrip Units 3 and 4. The use of regulatory liabilities to fund retirement costs of eligible coal units from a retirement account was enabled by RCW 80.84 as discussed in the Prefiled Direct Testimony of Katherine J. Barnard, Exhibit No. ____ (KJB-1T), on page 30. Colstrip Units 3 and 4 do not qualify under the legislation as eligible coal units since they were not in service prior to January 1, 1980. Additionally, RCW 80.84 requires that any remaining funds in the retirement account be returned to customers.