

August 16, 2013

The Honorable Dave Danner, Chair
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW,
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Dear Chairman Danner and Commission Members:

I am writing to comment on Puget Sound Energy's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) that is currently open for comments from the public.

Specifically I am concerned about PSE's plan to utilize the resources of the Colstrip Generating Facility over the next 20 years. The US Environmental Protection Agency ranks this plant as one of the largest sources of greenhouse emissions in the western US. Given the widespread effects of greenhouse emissions in the perturbation of the climate PSE should instead be incorporating a plan to phase out the use of this polluting source over a shorter time period.

Since PSE generates about 30% of its power from this plant it would seem reasonable to phase out this usage or cut it significantly over a shorter time period. Other documentation of comments for this IRP indicates that the cost justifications for use of the Colstrip utility are questionable or incomplete. Therefore, it would seem reasonable to revise the plan with a goal of phasing out this facility in PSE's future plans. PSE has an opportunity here to significantly improve its greenhouse emissions contribution and continue to be a leader in providing a clean environment.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comment.

Sincerely,

John T. Gunn

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2013 AUG 16 PM 3:56
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UTILITY AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION