

Comments on PSE's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)

Docket number (UE-160918 and UG-160919)

I am specifically commenting on Chapter 8 of the IRP.

Safety 01/16/17

The Bellevue Fire Department has stated that arcing between a downed powerline and an underground gas pipeline could result in "catastrophic" results. We are talking about igniting flammable jet fuel from gas pipelines.

According to experts, pipeline fires are particularly devastating because of the jet fuel that runs through them at high pressure. This flammable fuel is not able to be extinguished by local firefighters, but instead would require special foam, called "AFFF", to be delivered from Sea Tac airport to put it out. While the special foam is en route, these fuel fires would continue to run, forming rivers of fire that ignite everything in their path.

To have such a possible ignition source as close to schools and churches and neighborhoods as PSE proposes (in some cases less than 80 feet) should automatically result in a rejection of the project. Unfortunately, the City stands to gain a lot of money from this project, so they are willing to look the other way.

If such devastation occurred, there would be many fatalities. And who would pay for it? Would the city cough up that money? No. PSE's shareholders? Ha! No, it would be the ratepayers, who will already be paying for this unnecessary and dangerous project for decades. My future children will be paying for this project, while it puts them and my grandchildren at risk. I am pleading the UTC not to allow PSE to profit from risking the lives of the Bellevue's children.

Fiona Cofield