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.

Batteries 01/15/17

The UTC exists to protect rate payers from a utility company's ability to charge its customers for any projects that don't go toward saving us money. Since flow batteries have come on the market, and continue to fall in price, I believe that these batteries are the way to go for all new utility projects, as they can be installed much quicker, for less cost, and less environmental damage than an unsightly transmission line.

I admire that the UTC recently stated that energy storage needed to be considered for all new projects and upgrades to utility infrastructure. I would hope that this applies to PSE's Energize Eastside project as well. The study they had done three years ago is out-of-date, thanks to the advancements in battery technology. That study does not reflect current trends in battery prices or efficiency. Please tell PSE that they need to do a new study that reflect these changes.

In the future, I hope that the UTC is granted the additional authority to approve (or not approve) these projects outright. The UTC does not receive benefits like the \$1 million price tag the City of Bellevue will receive for PSE to take away our valuable trees.

Cynthia Vautier