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July 18, 2022

Washington UTC
P.O. Box 47250
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Re: Comment: PSE Rate Increase, Public Hearing

Dear Commissioners:

Having received a Notice from PSE of requested changes to PSE rates and public hearings I wish to submit the following:

Notice format: First, a comment on the notice to customers. Its font size is, for those of us with less than perfect vision...and lack of internet access... brutal to read. I believe that is intentional on PSE's part, *in order to minimize public comment*. Please note that the entire fourth page is blank in the hardcopy which indicates there is plenty of space to use a more legible font size. I suggest the Commission send the Notice back to PSE for reissue in at least 12 point font, and re-schedule the public hearing. This letter is printed 12 point as a courtesy to ensure you are both able to read it ...and that you read it.

I further submit the following ... having used a magnifying glass to read the Notice:

Of the reasons stated for rate increases in the PSE Notice, the only ones I can support are:

- To continue to provide safe and reliable energy service.
- To decarbonize its energy systems to comply with state mandates (not the rest of the statement because it is quite vague).

All other PSE reasons listed seem to me to be the result of mismanagement or exploitation of customers to the benefit of shareholders.

Seniors: The proposed rate increases are brutal for seniors and the low-income. Over the proposed three year period, 2023 – 2025, the average of the proposed rate increases for residential customers is 6.54%. That is in excess of the annual increase in Social Security benefits to our Senior citizens that in 2022 is 5.9% *that is intended to apply to all living expenses of a Senior*, not just electricity or natural gas.

Seniors on Social Security and those of equivalent age but not qualifying for Social Security should not be subjected to the proposed rate increases. This should apply regardless of type of housing – rental or ownership, or income level.

No Nuclear: I do not support nuclear energy as a form of energy development by PSE having had two people close to me catastrophically damaged by solar leaks – Hanford and Three Mile Island. These victims were not employed in the nuclear industry or ancillary work; they were only “in the neighborhood at the time.” I want none of any PSE rates charged now or in the future to be used for generation of power by nuclear energy. Its benefits do not outweigh its costs!

Passive Sources: I request very strong emphasis on investment in passive energy production and distribution development projects - wind, solar, tidal, geothermal - at all scales. Where fisheries will *not* be impacted I support use of hydroelectric. I do not want PSE customer money spent on power generation that will further degrade our environment. Washington State is blessed with suitable environments for development of the above passive sources. Look to countries of similar latitude with similar siting opportunities as examples, e.g. Denmark, Germany, or Chile.

Washington (and PSE) should be leading the way in clean energy. Above all, get PSE out of “dirty” energy.

Public Utility: And finally, I believe that PSE should be a public utility. It is time we get back to “by and for the people” in our democracy, away from corporations that control and manipulate our daily lives. Though I understand that is not your mandate under this hearing, I suggest you facilitate that transition however you can, and quickly.

Thank you for your attention to the content of my letter.

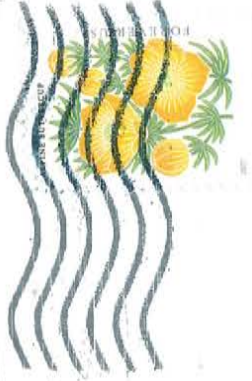
Sincerely,



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