From:	Richard Lauckhart
To:	Public Involvement (UTC)
Cc:	Cameron-Rulkowski, Jennifer (UTC); Gafken, Lisa (ATG); Dallas, Joe (UTC)
Subject:	RE UE-220066....PSE imprudent decision to pursue building Energize Eastside on same right-of-way as Olympic Pipleine
Date:	Thursday, April 7, 2022 11:57:42 AM

External Email

Dear WUTC-

In light of the CENSE Board's inexplicable decision to withdraw from the PSE Ratecase UE-220066 (*in which CENSE had proposed to oppose the PSE request that the WUTC find that EE is prudent*); I will be participating in proceeding UE-220066 as a public commenter. I have considerable information to put on the record in UE-220066 regarding the prudency of Energize Eastside.

My first written comment relates to the PSE **imprudent** decision to try to pursue building Energize eastside on the same right-of-way as Olympic Pipeline. If there is a transmission reliability problem on the Eastside (*something that I dispute*), then I have identified several options for dealing with any such problem that do not require building Energize Eastside on the same right-of-way as the Olympic Pipeline. It is obvious that if there are several options to solve a problem where only one among them is capable of killing people, no matter how remote that risk might be, a prudent utility would pick any one of the safe options over the one with its unique lethality.

The WUTC needs to be reminded of what happened with the Olympic Pipeline in Bellingham in the year 1999. View the video at the link below.

https://komonews.com/news/local/on-this-day-20-years-ago-pipeline-explosion-kills-3

Imagine if this disaster happened in one of the cities on the eastside rather than in a park in Bellingham.

After a three-year investigation, investigators pointed to a series of failures, and not just a single error, most of which were the fault of Olympic Pipeline. Olympic Pipeline had failed to properly train employees, and had to contend with a faulty computer SCADA system and pressure relief valve. In 1994, five years before the accident, an IMCO Construction crew, working on behalf of the City of Bellingham, damaged the pipeline while constructing the city's water treatment plant, and Olympic Pipeline had failed to find or repair the damage.[2]

Olympic, Equilon and several employees faced a seven count indictment after the investigation in 2002. The companies pleaded guilty to several of the charges, leading to a $112 million settlement, a record at the time. This was the first conviction against a pipeline company under the 1979 Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Act

ON THE BASIS OF SAFETY ALONE, THE WUTC SHOULD FIND PSE'S INVESTMENT IN ENERGIZE

EASTSIDE TO BE IMPRUDENT.

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