## Hartman, Brice C (ATG)

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To: comments@utc.wa.gov; ATG WWW E-mail Public Counsel

**Subject:** UE-240004 and UG-240005

## [EXTERNAL]

.It is highly disturbing to think this has progressed to the point where consumers will have no choice in this matter. The financial impact on individuals are impossible for the average person to incur. Much less to take away gas heat the only source of effective heat during power outages having a huge impact on the elderly.

PSE was very recently granted permission to dramatically increase prices for natural gas and electric utility service. It highly disturbing when advertisements by PSE praise themselves for what they are doing to help "go green" when they simply passed the cost of this endeavor on to the customers. Talk to any PSE customer and you will hear how this past recent rate increase has affected personal finances. PSE is a huge monopoly. Customers have no choice but to use their service depending on location. PSE customers have given up to write or express their opinions in this by simply stating "no one" listens to us.

My question is why wasn't this brought to a vote or at the very least made it known to whom this would impact other than describing it in a vaguely as "Supporting Washington's clean energy economy and transitioning to a clean, AFFORDABLE, and reliable energy future". This should be on a Federal level infrastructure bill and/or shared by all electric and gas customers equally not a state edict forcing it. PSE customers should not fund this endeavor. This bill imposed on me was not in my financial plan. This is shameful! It's no wonder people are leaving Washington state.

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