

**From:** [Merrilee Runyan](#)  
**To:** [UTC DL Records Center](#)  
**Subject:** Comment RE: Docket Numbers UE-160918 and UG-160919  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:49:58 AM

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Dear Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion on the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) submitted by Puget Sound Energy.

As a PSE rate payer, citizen, and grandparent, I am dismayed by PSE's continued reliance on fossil fuels, both coal and fracked gas. Their long-term plan lacks the vision for a carbon-free future that I and my fellow Washingtonians expect from our state's largest utility. The climate change implications of continued fossil fuel burning plants are clear while the economic injustice of these impacts fall most heavily on the poor and disadvantaged. This is not right.

I am writing because I want to encourage you to use your regulatory powers to insist on a change in direction from PSE. Rather than building more fossil fuel plants, like the LNG facility in Tacoma, PSE should be planning for a shift to full replacement with 100% renewable energy (wind, solar and other technologies) and conservation. Renewable energy is ready to harness with technology that currently exists. It is less expensive, cleaner and creates more jobs than fossil fuel sources. Furthermore, we can reduce our energy needs by maximizing all conservation technologies available. Maximized conservation and renewable energy will free all PSE customers from reliance on unsustainable, unhealthy coal and fracked gas as well as improve public health. Moving to 100% renewable energy sources is the right thing to do, right now.

I ask you to use your existing authority to defend the public interest by rejecting any plan that does not address getting coal-fired electricity from Colstrip off the utility's grid by 2025 and explicitly exclude new fossil fuel infrastructure, including liquefied natural gas (LNG).

I have done what I can do to change our energy footprint. My husband and I, despite being retired, have invested in increased conservation measures and have installed solar panels on our roof, as have many rate payers across the state. We are financially able to make that decision. However, renewable energy sources cannot be restricted to those who have some disposable income. Changing the source of our energy from dirty and dangerous coal and fracked gas to renewables will enable all of us to reduce our state's carbon footprint and contribute to a healthy planet.

We can and we must insist on a change in direction from PSE. I want my grandchildren and all of our children to inherit a planet that is able to support life. Simply going on as we have, ignoring the science of climate change and the promise of renewable energy, is unacceptable.

Again, thank you for this opportunity to share my thoughts.

Sincerely,

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