

**From:** [Cathy deSmet](#)  
**To:** [UTC DL Records Center](#)  
**Subject:** UE-160918 and UG-160919  
**Date:** Friday, February 16, 2018 10:47:24 AM

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Dear Commissioners,

I am a ratepayer of PSE since 1994 and have been on their Green Power Program for at least 5 years. I am writing to let you know that I fully support the change to renewable energy sources. I am surprised to learn that 59% of PSE's power comes from fossil fuels. This can't go on. I think PSE needs to be a leader regionally and nationally in the transition to renewable energy resources. I am asking for your help through your role of regulating private, investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities in Washington State.

The current IRP put out by PSE lacks commitment to renewable energy in a way that is meaningful. I want PSE to commit to closing all 4 Colstrip coal fired power plants by 2025 and commit to replacing them with conservation and 100% renewable energy.

Continued investment in coal and other fossil fuels saddles the utility with debt that will hinder its ability to utilize new technologies that provide more reliable, cleaner power at lower cost. Renewable energy will free customers from the cost volatility of fossil fuels and its unrelenting pollution and destruction. The climate change implications of continued fossil fuel burning plants are clear and the economic injustice of these impacts falls most heavily on the poor and disadvantaged.

Liquid Natural Gas is not a bridge fuel and should not be Plan B, if PSE doesn't move forward fast enough with Renewable Energy. The danger to health caused by the practice of hydraulic fracturing or "fracking" is alarming. Puget Sound Energy (PSE) proposes to transition from coal to natural gas, citing natural gas as a healthier and cleaner alternative, but it is not.

Please insist that PSE consider the full range of potential detrimental (financial and environmental) impacts on customers should PSE replace Colstrip with liquid natural gas. I believe that the most environmentally responsible choice (renewables) is also the most financially wise choice.

Thank you for taking my input and for your assistance in the regulation of PSE.

Cathleen deSmet

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