

Public Comments by Case

Total Comments: 210

In Favor: 53

Opposed: 150

Undecided: 7

Filing Support	Commenter	Source	Comments
No			
	Darrel Gunderson	E-mail	<p>PSE states that under certain circumstances "consumers will experience higher energy costs and rates due to covering the cost of uncollected revenue in bad debt write offs". Energy costs are currently too high. It is completely unacceptable to force high quality customers who pay their bills in a timely fashion to also pay the bills of bad debtors and associated additional PSE instituted overhead costs. It is due to bad corporate management and possibly poor over-site that has caused these costs in the first place not good customers. The irresponsible corporate and over-site individuals originating the problem should be the ones to pay for their bad behavior. For those of us who have worked so hard for so many years to build an exceedingly strong nation, it is wrong to continue to financially mistreat, abuse and pressure us. As a retiree, it is increasingly difficult to meet obligations because of extravagant wealth-redistribution inflationary federal government spending which results in a direct onslaught of retirement accounts including 401k, IRA, investment and savings accounts. Your continued money grubbing actions are destroying all that we have built. This PSE proposed action and all similar actions should not and must not continue.</p> <p>Respectfully, Darrel Gunderson</p>
	Frank Doering	E-mail	<p>Per: Docket s UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918 (Consolidated)</p> <p>This is mismanagement pure and simple. It is not the responsibility of good standing clients to pay for or bail out poor standing clients due to PSE's inability to properly conduct business. They have , at the very least, guidelines to follow and going to good standing clients should not be one of them for bailout. Laws in place should be used to the fullest extent or they should file for bankruptcy and reorganize, not pass on their loss to 'menopolized' good standing clients.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration to deny their request.</p>

			Frank Doering
	CANDACE CARRERA	E-mail	<p>Do you really think it is acceptable to charge your hard working customers more money because PSE has allowed its customers to continue using power even though they haven't paid their power bill? So PSE's lack of collecting bad debts are now going to cost me?? Stop the greed. PSE needs to be more responsible for their company. COLLECT YOUR DEBTS. DON'T EXPECT ME TO PAY FOR YOUR COMPANYS DEBT. Shame on you PSE..Do your job and be more responsible.</p> <p>CANDACE CARRERA</p>
	Nancy Glaser	E-mail	<p>I am a residential customer of Puget Sound Energy and was notified that customer rates might increase pending UTC decision making due to "unprecedented levels of past-due balances" from customers. The information sent to us from PSE indicated that the company would pass these costs onto customers as it would write off the cost of uncollected revenues as "bad debt write-offs."</p> <p>I encourage the UTC to require PSE to accept a lower rate of return to over these uncollected revenues. Customers already are asked to contribute routinely as they are able to help other customers with utility bills. Reduced profits make more sense than asking all customers to pay for this cost.</p> <p>Nancy Glaser</p>
	Ryan Pane	E-mail	<p>I find it disgusting your asking responsible energy consumers who pay there bill to bail out your irresponsible company for giving out power to people who dont pay. Your creating a situation where no one will want to pay there bill by doing this. Then what are you gonna do? Cry and beg the state and federal governments to bail you out with tax payer dollars. You need to cut your profits deal with this yourselves.</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
	Marcia Due	E-mail	<p>To Whom it May Concern:</p> <p>Please note that as a longtime customer of Puget Sound Energy, who has consistently and fully paid on time our bills to PSE, I strongly object to being charged extra to cover the costs of customers who do not pay their bills to PSE. It's unethical to even have this expectation! Please, seriously consider denying this terrible proposal.</p> <p>Most sincerely, Marcia Due</p>

	Janis K. Wheeler	E-mail	<p>Dear Sirs/Ms:</p> <p>Puget Sound Energy is asking to be able to change their credit and collection processes as agreed prior to the proceeding currently being conducted on Docket U-210800. Though I can sympathize with the shareholders of this for-profit company, at the same time, I sympathize with the customers who are unable to pay for the basic need of heating and cooling their homes. In a perfect world, our public utilities would be a public owned company and not a for profit who wants to satisfy shareholders above providing a public service. Puget Sound Energy will just raise prices (as already mentioned in their notice) to the rest of us to cover their losses. Is there a happy medium that the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission can uphold that is fair to both energy consumers and to the shareholders of Puget Sound Energy? Shareholder profit should not trump public service in a public service energy company. You know more than I do about what is best for the consumer in regard to ruling that Puget Sound Energy not change their rules until Docket U-210800 is satisfied. However, please consider making them wait. I ask for your good wishes and active protection of the public energy customers. Our economy is crazy right now and the cost of living huge. Please side with the consumer who is just trying to get their basic needs for life met.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Janis K Wheeler</p>
	J.B. Coats	E-mail	<p>Hello, and thank you for the chance to offer a comment.</p> <p>First of all, it's very hard to even understand what we're meant to comment on. What is PSE's petition even asking for? In the future, please include a natural language version of the legalese so consumers can have an informed opinion. Please include it in multiple languages as well to improve accessibility.</p> <p>If I understand correctly, PSE is asking for permission to more aggressively collect on delinquent accounts. If this is the case, I do not support this. People are struggling; assuming they are not paying their bills because they don't want to is inhumane and unfair. Milk costs \$5 a gallon and so does gas. People need help right now; not the prospect of facing a winter without heat in their homes.</p> <p>I also don't support PSE's apparent decision to punish the rest of us for a difficult economy by basically threatening to raise the rates unless they are allowed to pursue delinquent accounts with impunity. There are always ways to cut costs without impacting customers. I'm sure the C-suite executives could do with a pay cut or two, and there are likely many layers of middle management that add little and present a significant drain on finances. PSE should start by cutting costs internally before they make their customers' lives more difficult.</p>

	Frances M. Long	E-mail	<p>Ladies and gentlemen:</p> <p>I have been a Puget Sound Energy customer since their beginning. Since this is an investor-owned enterprise, I believe it is the investors who should take any loss that results from customers' not paying their bills.</p> <p>Frances M. Long</p>
	Heather Burton	E-mail	<p>To the Utilities and Transportation Commission regarding Puget Sound Energy's Petition to Amend Final Order (Docket s UE-220067, and UG-210918)</p> <p>From Heather Burton PSE customer Mount Vernon WA</p> <p>The above referenced petition suggests a threat: Allow PSE to amp up its threats to, and harassments of, low income and financially insolvent customers OR PSE will impose a permanent rate increase on all customers for this single event expense.</p> <p>This is an illegitimate argument for at least two reasons.</p> <p>First there is no evidence that increased pressure on low income or financially insolvent customers would result in increased payment of past due utility bills. There is no correlation between the overall size of PSE's level of past due balances as compared with "any other Washington State investor-owned utility in terms of dollars", and a need to modify its credit and collection practices to further intimidate and demean Washingtons vulnerable citizens.</p> <p>Second the cost PSE to recover outstanding balances represents a one-time event. Using this as an excuse to permanently raise the rates of all customers, including those who are or have been in arrears, is both illogical and foolish. It is illogical because a one-time event can be corrected with a one-time, short-term funding campaign if such a thing is even necessary and foolish because raising utility rates is likely to cause a greater number of people to become unable to meet this artificially imposed obligation from, as they say an investor-owned utility.</p> <p>It is also worth considering and remembering the genesis of this problem in the first place. PSE is a for profit company that sells non-discretionary life sustaining utilities that are both not optional and not attainable through another means. PSE has a for-profit monopoly over every citizen and business in its territory. By PSE's own admition the late payments in question began at a time when the government</p>

			<p>was insisting that every person remain in their homes, that businesses should close and people should forgo work. The government asked people to decrease income and by default increase personal energy consumption. And though the government made some effort to equalize that, it is clear it did not reach every layer of PSE's consumer base. That is unfair and unfortunate; adding illegitimate arguments intended to increase harassment by a multi-billion dollar company is adding insult to injury.</p> <p>Do not add insult to injury, Heather Burton</p>
	Jill Payne	E-mail	<p>I want you to not let PSE have an annual rate hike. I can hardly afford my electric bill now. I just paid my electric bill and it was 824.70 for two months. If you allow a rate hike annual I will not be able to pay my eclectic bill at all. Slim eating this month because of the cost . They want it annually because they want the people to oay for all the dead beats that don't pay there boss. I as a tax payer should no be forced to pay someone else bill when I can hardly pay mine. I'm so sick of being ripped off from big cooperation dinging everyone else for people who do not pay. Also if there rates are this high now there will more people not being able to pay there bill. It would be very appreciated if you just say NO. Jill Payne, Think if the tax payer fir once instead if making the private owner's richer.</p>
	Barbara Decker	Web	<p>It's very unfair to punish the law abiding citizens who have paid their bills, to slap us with a increase, because other people decided not to pay or even tried. Why do you all, that work in those Government or State jobs, make these unfair decisions without letting us, the consumers have a say? I'm on a fixed income and it's already a struggle to keep up. We voted for lower License tabs and won, but our vote didn't matter. I have seen so many cars with expired tags. Go after those people. Get money from the people who are not pulling their weight! Stop taxing us that have paid our bills and our NOT abusing the system. I'm so mad that we have to suffer, because others break the laws and get away with it. Quit taxing us. IT'S NOT FAIR!</p>
	Mark Shaffer	Web	<p>PSE brought this situation upon themselves by prematurely shutting down low-cost coal-fired power plants and by pandering to politicians and media fawning over utterly unrealistic and unreliable "renewable" energy schemes (for the record, I do fully support the utility's salmon recovery efforts). Let the utility and their customers stew in their own concoction.</p>
	Bernard Johnston	Web	<p>The customer believes PSE is a reliable service provider that is fair and reasonable. Has been a customer for over 60 years always paying bill on time. The customer asks the commission to accept the petition from PSE to resolve past due balances as quickly as possible to prevent the need to raise the rates on loyal paying customers.</p>
	Paul Mora	Web	<p>Why should the regular paying customers be penalized by increasing their rates. Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918. This is totally unfair.</p>

	Melanie Robinson	Web	<p>I have recently learned that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increase due to the company now trying to recover lost profit because of their choice to allow some users to not pay their bill for months or even years at a time.</p> <p>I believe that PSE instead needs to focus their efforts on collecting from these people. This should not be the responsibility of the people who HAVE been paying their bills to make up this amount!</p> <p>We are average citizens who struggle to pay get by and we have put in the hard work to be responsible - we have never missed paying a bill to PSE. We should not have to fix the poor decision of PSE to not go through collections for the folks who haven't been paying.</p> <p>We have no other energy option, we have seen increases already from PSE consistently over the years and we are fighting inflation along with everyone.</p> <p>This increase from PSE would actively hurt good hard working Americans for their company's profit.</p> <p>Please do not allow PSE to increase their rates!!</p>
	George Wenzinger	Web	<p>Docket: UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918 Disagrees with the proposed rate increases Doesn't want to pay for other people's bad debts</p>
	Mark Edward Jones	Web	<p>I hope this message finds you in good health and spirits. I am reaching out to formally address my concerns regarding the proposed utility rate increases announced by Puget Sound Energy. As a conscientious member of our community, the potential repercussions of these increases on both the affordability of essential services and the overall welfare of our local populace have prompted me to voice my apprehensions.</p> <p>Understanding the necessity for utility companies to recuperate expenditures and invest in infrastructural advancements, it remains imperative that any adjustments to rates are implemented with a balanced consideration for the economic pressures many households are currently enduring. The escalating cost of living, coupled with prevailing economic uncertainties, suggests that abrupt hikes in utility expenses could disproportionately impact financially vulnerable families, exacerbating their financial hardship.</p> <p>Moreover, the prospect of elevated utility costs poses a significant deterrent to prospective businesses, potentially stifling economic development and employment prospects within our community. This underscores the need for Puget Sound Energy to exhaust all possible alternatives and cost-saving measures prior to finalizing any rate modifications.</p>

			<p>In the spirit of fostering a transparent and inclusive dialogue, I advocate for comprehensive community engagement in the decision-making process, ensuring that the perspectives and concerns of the residents are adequately represented and addressed.</p> <p>As an integral stakeholder in this community, it is crucial for Puget Sound Energy to align its operational objectives with the principles of affordability and sustainability, thereby safeguarding the provision of dependable energy services to its constituents. I kindly request your consideration of these points and to revisit the proposed rate adjustments with a view towards a more equitable resolution.</p> <p>I appreciate your attention to these matters and am eager to engage in constructive discussions aimed at identifying mutually beneficial outcomes for all stakeholders involved.</p> <p>Warm regards,</p> <p>Mark Jones</p>
	Dan Nelson	Web	<p>It appears the state's "Global Warming" policies are at significant risk of bankrupting our Washington State energy providers, as a significant number of customers are unable to afford their essential consumption, and by requiring providers to extend 'credit' indefinitely forces these providers to raise their rates to cover their costs, and merely increases the number of consumers needing "open-ended credit, while requiring more and more of their consumers to keep subsidizing the bad debt in an unsustainable infinite feedback loop. We're not in favor of continuing to enable this ludicrous process, and if it's necessary to bankrupt the utilities in order to get the state to reverse its fantasy-driven "climate-mitigation efforts" sooner rather than later, we recommend we do it sooner and force a financially-sustainable approach to essential energy supply. Otherwise financial failure is going to expand from the providers to include virtually the entire state.</p>
	Jeffrey A. Blesener	Web	<p>I have received your notice with my PSE Power Invoice titled "Public Comment Hearing for Puget Sound Energy's Petition to Amend Final Order". I understand the dilemma of an increasing trend of past-due balances increasing 127 percent since May 2020.</p> <p>Our economy is unhealthy right now and with high inflation. Citizens are challenged to make ends meet and put fuel in their cars, buy groceries, pay rent/mortgages and property taxes. The PSE solution is to pass along the amount of the uncollectible debts incurred to the good standing rate payer. I object to the passing along the uncollectible debt to the rate payers and believe this should be shared with others.</p> <p>The PSE Notice says that PSE is a Washington State Investor Owned Facility. In any investment there is an element of risk. Granted utilities like PSE should be a lower risk investment than most. However, under the current economic conditions, I strongly believe that the INVESTORS also share in this</p>

			uncollectible debt. The Good-Standing Rate Payers should not be burdened entirely with this financial bailout.
	Anna Niederle	Web	Utilities should be turned off for non payers! You should not support non payers and punish payers! If you continue to do that you will have more non payers than payers! Why would I pay will be the question when others don't and there are no consequences! You should stop to support and subsidized non payers! Basically charging payers more you are criminals by stealing money from the payers forcibly raising their rates without their approval! To come clean on the raising the rates you should put it up to vote!
	Tara L. Gray	Web	With all prices through the roof, the last thing people need is for you to increase our rates. For many, it will come down to living in a freezing home or eating. Please stop thinking of money and show concern and compassion for the residents. Our bills are high enough already.
	Stacey chin	Web	hello, my name is Stacey Chin I recently learnt that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increase due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those that have not paid, not the responsible ones who have. This Robin Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived and don't put the hard work into being responsible. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbor didn't waive a bill, PSE did. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of their decision making and not look to us to fix a bad business decision. We have no other energy option, have constantly seen increases we cannot control, and are fighting inflation and reduced wages. This increase would actively hurt good hard working Americans for one companies profit margin. Please do what you can to not increase rates. Thank you
	Susan Preston	Web	I have to think that the utility commissions is crazy considering the fees and considering we need to get more people off of Gas and Wood heat. Right now, we should be encouraging people to go electric, and I am personally surrounded by the people who are heating with gas and wood which is worst when the wildfires are here in the summer, and nothing is being done about this. I read somewhere the money was going towards environmental problems which is an absolutely a non-sequenator. You people (Utilities Commission) need to get more serious about getting off fossil fuels and using more electricity. I curse you every morning to go out to do the chores smelling like smoke and my lungs do so also.
	David Bauman	Web	Message: Reference: ue-220066,ug-220067,ug-210918 (consolidated). Pse wants debt collection rule changes& pass there losses to all rate payers. Pse is a for profit utility, they should not charge higher

			rates to good paying customers. Pse has a solid history of higher rates, if they take a loss they should accept there bad business decision. I believe the losses are used as tax write off, and should not be covered by good paying customers. Seattle should turn half of the lights off, the savings then provided to less fortunate.
	David Anderson	Web	I would prefer to have not rates raised; cost is going through the roof it is important for the company to decrease expenditures. In reference to the UE220066, UG220067.
	David Bauman	Web	Message: Reference: ue-220066,ug-220067,ug-210918 (consolidated). Pse wants debt collection rule changes& pass there losses to all rate payers. Pse is a for profit utility, they should not charge higher rates to good paying customers. Pse has a solid history of higher rates, if they take a loss they should accept there bad business decision. I believe the losses are used as tax write off, and should not be covered by good paying customers. Seattle should turn half of the lights off, the savings then provided to less fortunate.
	Garrett Garris	Web	Docket s UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918 I wish to have you reconsider the possibility of rate increases to the customers that have consistently kept up on payments to Puget Sound Energy. As a responsible customer I am appalled at the prospect of requiring myself and others like me to be penalized with higher bills due to uncollected payments. This should not fall onto our shoulders. I respectfully request that you find another way to collect past due bills from the ones that caused this situation.
	David & Diana Blackmer	Web	Our monthly energy rate went from \$150 to \$193 earlier this year and this month went from \$193 to \$206. This is an increase of \$66 MONTHLY. This is more than 25% increase in less than one year. We are retired and both worked for non-profit organizations, so have never received even middle income salaries. I imagine that you will have MANY MORE arearages after such a hefty increase. Thankfully citizens in our climage might not freeze to death, but further increases will cause low income and retired people real hardship because of the increases in ALL living expenses in Washington State, including the highest gas taxes in the United States. Call on our state to cover a large percentage of PSD arears since the state should have the money. dorto non-profet
	Chris Fischer	Web	
	Regina Adams	Web	I cannot afford any rate increase.
	Dan Wallem	Web	I do not want to pay for anyone else's bills. We both don't work are on fixed incomes and don't want to pay other people's bills. Do we have to pay our power bills if we don't have to.
	David Gilmore	Web	Subject: Concerns Regarding Proposed Rate Increases by Puget Sound Energy I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed rate

			<p>increases by Puget Sound Energy. As a member of the community, I am worried about the potential impact these increases could have on the affordability of essential services and the well-being of our surrounding communities.</p> <p>While I understand the need for utility companies to cover their costs and invest in infrastructure improvements, it's crucial to ensure that any rate adjustments are reasonable and considerate of the financial strain many families are already facing. With the rising cost of living and economic uncertainties, a sudden increase in utility bills could place an undue burden on households, particularly those already struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p>Furthermore, I am concerned about the broader implications of these rate hikes on our community's economic vitality. Higher utility costs could deter potential businesses from establishing roots in our area, hampering local growth and job opportunities.</p> <p>Before any rate increases are implemented, I urge Puget Sound Energy to thoroughly assess alternative solutions and explore avenues for cost containment. Additionally, I encourage transparency and public engagement throughout this process to ensure that the voices and concerns of residents are heard and considered.</p> <p>As a valued member of this community, I believe it's essential for Puget Sound Energy to prioritize affordability and sustainability while fulfilling its responsibility to provide reliable energy services. I respectfully request that you take these concerns into account and reconsider the proposed rate increases. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing your response and working together towards a solution that benefits all members of our community.</p> <p>Sincerely, David Gilmore</p>
	Lythia Borges	Web	<p>Docket s UE-220066, UG-220067 and UG-21098</p> <p>I received a letter about a Petition to Amend Final Order. It said due to current level of past-due balances PSE were proposing to increase (higher rates) due to covering the cost of uncollected revenue in bad debt. How UNFAIR to PENALIZE those of us who DO pay our bill. We should NOT be made to cover the cost of those who are delinquent in their payments. I am on a fixed income and can ill afford an increase. Please reconsider this plan because if it passes there may be more people who can not pay their PSE bill.</p>
	Caroline Ralph	Web	<p>Comments typed verbatim by Sam C when customer called CP hotline:</p> <p>I am opposed to any further increases. We've had enough on everything lately. I'm a senior citizen on a very fixed income and this is getting very difficult to manage the bills flexing all the time between utilities and property taxes and all the taxes that we have to pay.</p>
	Robert Brady	Web	<p>Dear Puget Sound Energy,</p> <p>I urge you to reconsider the decision to raise rates due to past due balances. By doing so, many residents who are already struggling might face further challenges in affording the already high cost of energy. This</p>

			<p>move could potentially push more households into the inability to pay, leading to unforeseen consequences that could burden the community at large. Please explore alternative solutions that support those in need and prevent this cycle from worsening.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Robert Brady</p>
	Frank Doering	Web	<p>Per: Docket s UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918 (Consolidated)</p> <p>This is mismanagement pure and simple. It is not the responsibility of good standing clients to pay for or bail out poor standing clients due to PSE's inability to properly conduct business. They have , at the very least, guidelines to follow and going to good standing clients should not be one of them for bailout. Laws in place should be used to the fullest extent or they should file for bankruptcy and reorganize not pass on their loss to 'menopolized' good standing clients.</p>
	Barbra Herrick	Web	<p>I pay my bill in full and on time. Not my responsibility to pay for your unsuccessful collections. The solution is simple non payment cut the power off for those derelict accounts.</p>
	Kay Swickard	Web	<p>I recently learned we are at risk of having our PSE bill increased because the company has lost profits because others have not paid. I believe PSE's efforts should collect from the those that are not paying. We are a retired couple and cannot take on the cost of this increase. Please do what you can to not increase rates.</p>
	Carol Butcher	Web	<p>I am retired on a fixed income and I pay my PSE bill every month. I don't think it's right to pay for someone else that can't pay and PSE is not requiring them to pay. PSE needs to come up with another way to recoup their loss.</p> <p>Thank You.</p>
	Brett Little	Web	<p>I know that nothing will come of this comment. But I'm tired of paying more for my gas bill because a privately owned company can't figure out basic billing. If I was told to budget my expenses to reflect a deficit in my income I would adjust. I would not be able to ask for more money from my neighbors to offset my deficit. Why are utilitie companies allowed to do so on an ongoing basis. I don't feel like I should have to foot the bill why they are continuing to profit. Sincerely Brett Little concerning docket s UE-2200066 UG-220067 & UG-210918 (Consolidated)</p>
	JODI DAUGHERTY	Web	<p>We are opposed to increasing rates to PSE consumers for both electric and natural gas rates in an effort for PSE to recover revenue for unpaid services. It is an unreasonable expectation for those rightfully paying for their own services - to pay for those who do not. A rate hike from PSE will certainly exacerbate the problem - placing a higher burden on those struggling to pay bills will only lead to more unpaid services. Recommend PSE seek funding from WA State - Affordable Advisory Boards.</p>

	Jack Wray	Web	We don't believe the costs associated with the Climate Commitment Act should be born by the utility users. I should be funded by the general tax or at the national level, since it is strictly a political ploy.
	Michael Lasher	Web	I just received last month's bill, and it was 50% increase from what it is normally is. The people in our neighborhood seen the same, there was a meeting and PSE stated that since people are not paying their bills, so we are being punished. I am on a fixed income and cannot afford it.
	David Berkison	Web	I live in Auburn, WA. I got information in the mail from PSE and if I'm understanding it correctly it is saying something like they are asking permission for paying customers to pick up the bill for nonpaying customers. I just want to complain about that. It's not right. It's not fair for anybody like my wife and myself to be paying for anybody who is not paying their bills. I want to go on record and make a complaint about it and say that I am absolutely not in agreement. Thank you for everything you do. Have a nice day. Called on 12-15-23 at 12:48 pm
	Richard Barnes	Web	Taken Verbatim by Melissa Castaneda-Kerson This is not fair to the people that pay their bills. The is unfair to the good customer. Why should we have to pay because of someone else's lack of interest paying their bills.
	Paul Hedges	Web	The company generates too much profit to be requesting such outrageous price hikes. They should be focused on cutting costs to offset flagging revenues rather that increasing an already large profit surplus.
	Frank Damiano	Web	I feel Puget Sound Energy rates are already too high and any more rate increases are going to make it even harder for most people to afford, let alone low-income and low-income elderly, afford their heat. When I last went to a UTC commission meeting and elderly women on a fixed income broke down crying because she could afford her bills and kept her house on the lowest safe setting to avoid higher bills she couldn't afford. I strongly feel the commission needs to pause rate increases for awhile. Too many people simply can't afford to pay their energy bills as evidenced by PSE saying how much is owed them. The commission has to help the people with the bills and stop increasing the rates each year. If PSE lowered or at least stop increasing rates, but people could afford to use the normal amount of energy or even use more. But these costs increases are hurting people and it has to stop. The UTC needs to take this seriously or find a new provider or look for more alternatives other than rate increases because PSE rate hikes are harassing people. I am feeling really helpless because it seems no one is taking these issues seriously and there are a lot of people already with energy bills beyond their means and these rates increase will only mean more people that won't be able to afford their energy bills.
	Cristi	Web	We recognize that is costs money to produce our energy; however, each time our bill is paid we cringe. The cost is already quite high enough. . . too high actually.

	Stacey chin	Web	<p>hello, my name is Stacey Chin I recently learnt that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increase due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those that have not paid, not the responsible ones who have. This Robin Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived and don't put the hard work into being responsible. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbor didn't waive a bill, PSE did. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of their decision making and not look to us to fix a bad business decision.</p> <p>We have no other energy option, have constantly seen increases we cannot control, and are fighting inflation and reduced wages.</p> <p>This increase would actively hurt good hard working Americans for one companies profit margin.</p> <p>Please do what you can to not increase rates.</p> <p>Thank you</p>
	Rebecca O'Connell	Web	<p>Comments typed verbatim by Sam Cooper after consumer called CP Hotline: I'm on a fixed income and my last bill was over \$600 and I'm frightened to open the one now. That's how scared I am. I had to put on a credit card. I have no way to pay. It just blew me away. I've been in my house 30 years.</p>
	Angela Griffin	Web	<p>I represent Byrd Barr Place, a community action agency and low-income heating and energy assistance provider for Seattle residents, and we offer essential services— including energy assistance— to PSE's natural gas customers. I'm writing on behalf of our clients, who will be greatly impacted by PSE's proposed decision to resume business-as-usual disconnections that may harm their customers before they have the opportunity to access support we provide. It often takes a few months to get all of the documents and jump through all of the hoops to get assistance with their bills that neither us nor the utility have been able to find a solution to speed up the process.</p> <p>PSE's new bill discount rate program and temporary arrearage management program may be able to mitigate this issue, but it's too early to tell given that they only recently have been implemented. They have asked you to upend dunning and disconnection practices that were put in place to protect its most vulnerable customers in a selective proceeding where only certain parties have been at the table. That's not the kind of open process where all the people potentially impacted could be heard and fully participate.</p> <p>Utility shut offs and debt have long been a mostly invisible problem in our communities, but the pandemic clearly demonstrated to many how essential utilities really are, and how disconnections are not evenly distributed among Washingtonians. Rather, they hit the hardest in communities that are already</p>

			<p>overburdened with pollution, poverty, low life-expectancy, and a host of other issues. We know that the status quo practices are inequitable and are making things worse. The only difference from the status quo in what PSE has proposed is that they are putting vulnerable communities and families towards the end of the disconnection queue, which only delays harm rather than grapples with it. As someone who works everyday with customers who are working their hardest to make ends meet for their families, we ask that the Commission please deny PSE's proposal and instead return this conversation back to a broader public forum so that all voices may have a chance to be heard.</p>
	Ben Holmes	Web	<p>This is absolutely unbelievable, you're going to charge the customers who pay their bill every month for the ones who don't pay their bill rather than cutting off service and sending the bills to collections? How is that possibly fair? Remove this type of thinking from your organization.</p>
	Greg Lancaster	Web	<p>I am not in support of stopping collection of past due balances. Responsible customers should not have to pay for those who are irresponsible. I understand some people have hardships. It sounds like there are other programs for helping these people. Canceling past due bills only creates an incentive to continue to not pay, resulting in a spiral where fewer and fewer responsible customers support more and more customers that are taking advantage of the policy.</p>
	Katrina Sandeen	Web	<p>UE-220066 & UG-220067 is not in good faith. That the law allows people to not pay their bill and that PSE employees are unable to obtain payment should NOT be my responsibility. I do not see PSE upgrading their system to ensure my service is more efficient so as a result I shouldn't have to pay for their bad business decisions. Consumer Protection law states that I have a good faith expectation. I am enacting that good faith promise.</p>
	Kelly Huber	Web	<p>This green energy transition is making electricity unaffordable for people. With the rate changes increasing constantly, it might as well be "Energy for the very rich" and the poor and middle class will have to live in a cold dark house because it is so unaffordable. Go back to using reliable and cheap forms of energy like coal, hydro, and nuclear and stop using the unreliable and not green "green energy" like solar and wind. These are very unreliable and way too expensive.</p>
	Kazimierz Bakun	Web	<p>I have received like all other PSE costumers, a notice of a petition referring to: Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918 (Consolidated). I object to this idea that the public (PSE customers) should be responsible for mismanagement of company practices. The whole idea that top executives run the company and have no accountability for their actions, while their decisions affect the company negatively, both in the past and the future. The responsibility should be placed on the executives behind the decisions. While making decisions that increase costs to the public, the executive board is being paid \$11,379,901 in 2022 according to public record. (https://www1.salary.com/PUGET-SOUND-ENERGY-INC-Executive-Salaries.html). Their public statement doesn't include the amount of debt that PSE is due from customers in financial need, but mentions that it increased by 127% from May 2020-May 2023. Their plan to offset the bad debt</p>

			<p>is by increasing all customer's costs. There is no outlined plan on how collection processes will change, and without a solid plan moving forward, the mentioned "Regular, annual" rate increases can lead to a positive feedback loop of more bad debt write offs and continually higher costs for consumers, while making electricity payments less accessible.</p> <p>Until there is a solid plan to solve the problem with the bad debt that PSE has/will acquire, the executive board should instead pay for the companies bad debt and mismanagement of processes with their excessive salaries, as they should be held accountable for their decisions.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my complaint.</p>
	Karen Duval	Web	<p>Dockets UE-220066, UG-2200-67, UG-210918</p> <p>Whatever agreements have been in place for PSE to process credits and collections need to be addressed/changed or whatever is needed so that customers do not have to foot the bill (once again) for something the utility should be dealing with. If they are unable to maximized their processes to collect past due balances, then they need to look at their system, not expect paying customers to make up the difference for PSE's short comings. It seems whenever there is an issue, problem, or need, the utility gets approval to raise rates. That is not ok. The utility needs to find a way to manage with the money they collect from the services. And if they can't they need to show that they have tried to adapt their current structure to meet their financial needs before coming to the UTC to ask for more money from customers.</p>
	Jeanne Miller	Web	<p>The notice we received in the mail (printed in faint ink that's difficult to read) states" "If PSE is unable to adjust its credit and collections processes before the conclusion of Docket U-210800, consumers will experience higher energy costs and rates due to covering the cost of uncollected revenue in bad debt write offs. . . these estimated rate impacts would be regular, annual, and would last until PSE is able to adjust its existing credit and collections processes."</p> <p>Well, that sure sounds like blackmail to me! Our rates have already gone up, and will go up again on January 1st. We all suffered as a result of the covid pandemic, and now it sounds like PSE wants to stick it to its customers to make up for what it lost during that period. We ALL lost. Raising rates will result in even more defaults as people are unable to keep up. It's past time for our utilities to be publicly owned, not "investor-owned" by a foreign company.</p>
	Jack Kay	Web	<p>Docket UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918</p> <p>I just received a 1/1/24 rate increase and in the letter I received there was a notice stating that PSE is behind on bad debt collections and is wanting to make businesses and folks that pay there bills on time pay for PSE's inability to collect from delinquent accounts by raising rates regularly and at unspecified amounts. This is absolutely ridiculous. My family budget is limited and if income goes down for any reason we have to cut spending to make up the difference. PSE needs to cut expenses just like anyone else that is responsible in the private sector and that's including businesses. This is nothing less than a masked</p>

			<p>price hike being masqueraded as a forced charitable contribution due to poor PSE business management practices. How about opening the books at PSE to show all of us customers PSE's number of employees, average salaries, Bonuses, pensions, PTO, benefits and the number of their folks that are currently working from home? My family is 100% against this and we will be letting everyone we know on social media about this planned PSE/UTC charity scam</p>
	Bridget Battistoni	E-mail	<p>To Whom it May Concern,</p> <p>I am a resident of Seatac, King County.</p> <p>I'm writing to complain about the rate hike. Our property only has electricity. We have invested in smart bulbs, smart thermostats, insulation, honeycomb blinds, new, energy-efficient appliances— including new heat pump, furnace and water heater. We live in a single story home. We have done that has been asked to reduce. We are choking on these electric bills—every month being a new record high. We have our thermostat set at 68-69° in the day and 65° at night. We use a wood burning fireplace on the coldest nights.</p> <p>Repeal the rate hike. It is unsustainable. PSE spends money on lavish buildings and training rooms so please incentivize them to be more efficient like you ask those of us who are within your jurisdiction to be.</p> <p>Thank you, Bridget Battistoni</p>
	Rod Carson	E-mail	<p>This email states that we are against rate increases by PSE who is an IOU utility. The bad debts should not be placed on the homeowner . PSE needs to remedy their debts. Dulcie Carson Rod Carson</p>
	Gary Lucas	E-mail	<p>The UTC did not do a very good job by allowing PSE to increase the rates like they have. Shame on the UTC! How many people are going to go even more hungry then they are now. Dose PSE really need that much money.</p>
	GARY LUCAS	E-mail	<p>You like paying your new power bill! This is so wrong! All the people living in mutible housing and have no choice where there power comes from.</p>
	Peggy Andrews	E-mail	<p>Why, why, why do they need to continually increase their charges? We just had an increase in January! We folks on a fixed income cannot keep up with these costs! (we do not qualify for assistance!)</p>

			<p>Maybe they need to figure out a way to decrease their spending! This makes me more in favor of NOT going all electric when we continually go without electricity for hours at a time. The system is broken!</p> <p>Please do not allow another increase!</p> <p>Peggy Andrews</p>
	Linda Fluke	E-mail	<p>I am a senior citizen, living on social security income. I pay my PSE bill on time every month. I keep my gas thermostat at 63 degrees during the daytime, 60 degrees in the evening and 55 degrees at night. I wear sweaters and sometimes hats to keep warm. I use daylight through my double-pane windows for most of the day and only one LED light at a time in the evening.</p> <p>I cannot afford higher PSE rates. I don't think I should have to pay for uncollected or uncollectable bills for others who are not paying, even with the "significant energy assistance provided by PSE" to those customers.</p> <p>Please do not let PSE increase billing rates to those of us who pay our share.</p> <p>Thank you, Linda Fluke</p>
	Douglas Dolleman	E-mail	<p>External Email</p> <p>The UTC is the state agency that regulates private, investor-owned electric and natural gas utilities in Washington. It is the commission's responsibility to ensure regulated companies provide safe and reliable service to customers at reasonable rates, while allowing them the opportunity to earn a fair profit.</p> <p>Please note: I am 65 years old and collect Social Security w/ a fixed income. As you know the cost of living has gone up, with more of my dollars spent for the same service I currently have. Each time a "reasonable rate increase is enacted for UTC fair profit" means I have "less money" to pay other monthly bills. I am sure my comments reflect the many many other seniors living under the same conditions.</p> <p>regards, Douglas Dolleman</p>
	David Feldberg	E-mail	<p>Please do NOT give them one nickel increase for anything.....</p>

			<p>they seem to get raises in everything every six months.</p> <p>They are richer then the gov't of washington and getting richer.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>David and Beverlyn Feldberg</p>
	Don Moody	E-mail	<p>Uh</p> <p>We are sick of being treated like cattle!</p> <p>You are given far to much leeway to over charge by using the statement: “provide a fair profit” Who decides what fair is? Not us for sure.</p> <p>Now we hear natural gas is likely to be eliminated. Every nerve in our bodies is on fire, while we struggle to pay outrageous bills and we angrily watch politicians sell us out to line their own pockets by using proven lies as fuel. Global warming, climate change or what ever your ilk use as the tool to screw us with isn't real, it isn't based on any facts, only based on the balance sheet of your bank accounts. The only supportive scientists are bought and paid for, the rest call BS on climate hoaxisms</p> <p>Taxes, fees, additional asinine reasons to increase EVERY CHARGE THAT IS PILED ON is killing us. This has to stop.</p> <p>I am so pissed off about the intentional theft that YOUR agency approved. So much that I spend days, prior to march 31 burning thru my “banked” energy that my solar array produced. I refuse to give one watt to the thieves at PSE! I am a producer of electricity and should have equal opportunities and the same rights as PSE does.</p> <p>Please consider us out here a lot more than you seem to today. See our struggle and the horrible predicament you and your ilk are creating. You are a big part of the destruction of our once great country.</p> <p>Thank You for the opportunity to voice my opinion, even though it has been the norm to be ignored and actually feels like the opposite of our wishes are ALWAYS the only option choice chosen.</p> <p>Moose Moody</p>
	Kirsten Weinmeister	E-mail	<p>Comments on PSE rate increase Combined Dockets U-210800, UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918</p> <p>Regarding the public hearing on these dockets, I'd like to make a comment on the hearing for PSE's rate hike to offset the non-payment balance or arrearages increase of 127% in 2020-2023. I would argue that the state is complicit in the fact that 1) the WEF Covid lockdown resulting in a huge loss of jobs due to the mandates- employees, nurses, firemen and state, city and county workers losing their jobs, leaving people unable to pay their bills, or their rent for that matter, and then allowing unpaid rents that caused a hardship on homeowners as well was mandated. Businesses closed down, small and large. All for a .099</p>

% curable virus that was the flu, as the flu vanished during 2020. PSE has had at least five rate increases in the last five years, and the ongoing climate agenda that is causing additional costs to the Utilities for unreliable and inconsistent power from wind and solar mandates, that will now trickle down to the homeowners to offsetting the cost of these mandates, as well as those costs of smart meter installation that the UTC approved even after many comments providing information on how dangerous these meters are, what they are capable of and the dangers of low level RF radiation, including fire, that no one seems to have an accurate account of when and how long and the maximum pulse frequency of the meters, just as with livestream technology with pulse frequencies being located in every parking lot. If someone were to opt out of the RF meters, if they were allowed to, they were immediately taken off the budget plan, leaving someone to owe 900 or more due immediately.

How are the arrearages costs calculated out of the balance of the cost of implementing your smart meter agenda, replacing meters, the cost of labor and materials which wasn't mentioned that may be included. These costs may be very high and according to the public hearing, UTC and PSE were made aware of the dangers of smart meters, the fact that you don't know the satellite capabilities of the parts installed from other countries as they are made in several other countries or the capabilities within the radio frequency meters which are a form of radiation that travels and passes through humans all day long in which there are those people who are sensitive to radio frequency waves as well as well as electro-magnetic fields. UTC still allowed the smart meters to be installed after being made aware of this information through public comments, and now, after five rate hikes, there is the same situation of another rate hike, due to uncollected debt?! These costs need to be separated out and why-the climate agenda that is requiring the utility companies to use unreliable and inconsistent power from solar and wind, and now rate payers have to take on the cost to defray for dangerous battery banks for these new useless, but expensive technologies including mandating electric cars that are catching fire on container ships or battery banks that require the area to be evacuated. The costs of the WEF climate tzars will be passed down to the people, whom already cannot afford to pay their high costs, not to mention the infrastructure that has no capacity for the "green agenda". The electric grid is already overburdened just like in California where people are asked to not use their AC or in the NW where People can volunteer to turn their heat down during peak hours and turn over control to PSE. Unfortunately, the reduced global carbon correlates to the temperature, which will make it more difficult for people to heat their homes when it is cold and dry. Thank you for allowing me to comment on rate increases, and how much Covid funding did these utilities receive, and how was this money was used. I appreciated the fact that PSE helped me to offray my high utility costs and I am very conservative with my power.

Kirsten Weinmeister

	AJ Notch	E-mail	As an unsubsidized PSE utility customer, of course I'm against a rate increase. PSE rate increases seem to be a biannual event and are requested too often. However, rates are really not the culprit, rather it is the ever increasing number of subsidized customers. I'd guess if there were no subsidized users, the cost of electricity & gas would be halved, the same as property taxes and local utilities would.....AJNotch
	Dan Welygan	E-mail	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I strenuously object to this proposal; on two main reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The basis of rate increases; I am not sympathetic to PSE's view as a privately held entity that it must increase its authorized return on equity to 9.9%. 2. I disagree that PSE should be able to recover the costs for its customer assistance funds and bills sent to collections. These are costs of doing business, and it's incredibly unfair for PSE to shove these costs back on its customers who responsibly pay their bills. <p>In light of PSE's role as a regulated utility and the fact that it is owned by a privately held, for-profit entity that recently authorized spending up to 2 billion Australian dollars on stock buybacks as of its last financial statement (Macquarie Group announces \$A1,415 million half-year profit Macquarie Group), I am deeply skeptical of PSE's proposed amendment, and of the rate increase request in general.</p> <p>Thanks, -Dan</p>
	Jane Sullard	E-mail	<p>Why should people who pay their power bills be saddled with the debt of those who don't? The real solution is to cut off the power of those who are delinquent.</p> <p>Jane Sullard</p>
	Jennifer Harrell	E-mail	Please do not raise PSE rates. They are high enough already. Families are having a hard time affording everything they need. We cannot afford another PSE rate hike. Thank you.
	Evan Davies	E-mail	<p>Ref: Flyer for Public Comment hearing for PSE petition to amend Final Order U-210800 rcvd 11/21/2023</p> <p>Good Evening,</p> <p>Per the reference, the flyer provided a general overview but was lacking any real detail for a customer to offer an informed and quality comment.</p>

To follow up on the subject matter and the comments made, and hopefully gain a better understanding what is being asked for and potential impact to the customer, the following is provided:

- For UTC, these questions are being asked because the detailed information was not included in the flyer.

- 1) What "part" of PSE's Petition have you indicated your intent to grant?
- 2) What "part" of PSE's Petition have you indicated your intent to deny?
- 3) How will the results/final decision be made available to the public?

- For PSE, these questions are being asked because the information was not included in the flyer.

- 1) What are the current credit/collections rules as approved by U-210800 that you are working under from Final Order 24?
- 2) Why, specifically, does PSE believe it is unable to expand its customer and outreach practices aimed at addressing arrearages?
- 3) Why can't PSE provide any type of prediction on how rates will be impacted? You know how much you have in arrearages. No doubt, PSE has sketched out some type of rough plan based on the assumption you get your wish and an amendment(s) made to the credit and collection process. So what would this rough estimate be for "regular, annual, and duration" impacts?

Overall Comments:

- + This petition/request reads to me, a PSE customer who pays my monthly bill in full without fail is that:
 - The total past due allowances PSE has incurred since at least May 2020, is going to chopped up / divided / spread loaded / passed along to all the other PSE customers, like myself, who pay the power/gas bill on time and in full.
 - Unless PSE shuts off / caps / freezes power and gas usage by those customers in arrears, this overall past due bill amount will continue to climb and PSE, along with us paying customers, will continue to chase a goal that can never be reached. I would anticipate as customers that have past dues get caught up and out of arrears, they start to chip in to the overall effort to pay off PSE's past debt.
- + I think the consensus I heard from the public comment ZOOM/phone in, and I concur, would be PSE leave the paying customers alone and focus their energy working with "past due" customers to get them out of arrears. I believe most want to pay off their debt and would agree to work with PSE to come up with some type of payment plan. There will always be a small % that will refuse to pay back their debt, for whatever reason, and continue to incur charges. Those folks will make themselves known quickly and should be dealt with as quickly - power shut off.
- + I've been a PSE customer since 2017 and have seen an increase in my electric (E) and gas (B) occur every year except 2018, 2020, 2021 gas only, & 2022 via a variety of announcements I have received in the mail. Specifically,

		<p>=> 2017: E - +2.6% & G - +4.25%. RATIONAL: Cover increased expenses for a proposed electric reliability program to replace aging underground cable and upgrade 50 least-reliable circuits in our service territory. Increased decommissioning and environmental remediation expenses related to the partial shutdown of the Montanan Colstrip Generating Station by July 2022 (began collecting now). Increased expenses due to depreciation and cost recovery of your capital assets such as electric poles, conduits, and transformers. Compliance with the State of WA Clean Air Rule and increased costs for emission reduction requirements are expected to result in higher power costs. Decreased expenses for the depreciation of gas-related capital assets, in addition to lower natural gas price forecasts.</p> <p>=> 2019: E - +7.7% & G - +7.5%. RATIONAL: Investments in technology systems such as self-service tools that allow customers to interact with PSE at their convenience. Accommodate increasing levels of residential solar, battery storage and electric vehicles with electric infrastructure investments, cost recovery of electric depreciation expense. Improved reliability with natural gas infrastructure investments, cost recovery of natural gas depreciation expenses. Customers pay for rate of returns in order to service debt expenses and provide the opportunity for shareholders to earn a fair return on their investment.</p> <p>=> 2021: E - +3.49%. RATIONAL: Higher natural gas costs. New power purchase agreements. New and renewed transmission contracts. Decreasing customer electricity usage.</p> <p>=> 2023: E - +15.8% & G - 12.12%. RATIONAL: This was a multi year increase notification from 2023 - 2025. Continue to provide safe and reliable energy service. Decarbonize its energy systems to comply with state mandates and meet the expectations of customers and stakeholders. Recover more than four years of capital and operating investments made on behalf of customers and not currently included in PSE's rates. Recover increased operating costs. To set rates for a multiyear rate plan that reflect upcoming capital investments and operating cost over the three-year period. Increase PSE's authorized return on equity from 9.4% - 9.9%.</p> <p>=> 2024: E - +2.62% & G - +2.19%. Same rationale as listed from 2023. I then received a notification on 10/21/2023 informing me that starting October 1, PSEs natural gas customers will see higher rates reflected on their monthly bills. Higher rates result from costs incurred by PSE to purchase allowances (a compliance instrument) to cover greenhouse gas emissions and comply with the cap-and-invest program.</p> <p>=> 2025: E - +1.2% & G - +1.74%. Same rationale as listed from 2023.</p> <p>As a common customer, I have very little visibility if these rate increases "paid off" for the company, and me as a customer. It appears I have already paid for customers that have switched over to solar, thus reducing electric needs from PSE so PSE jacks up my electric rate to make up the difference. I know both my gas and electric meters have been replaced with upgrades and I have seen power poles replaced in and around where I live. Outside of those two examples, I have no visibility of the other rational reasons PSE asked for increases....no feedback to the customer on success or failure. But what I can tell you is how my yearly, average electric/gas bill has changed (INCREASED OVERALL) from 2017 - 2023 as follows:</p>
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			<p>2017: \$263.86, 2018: \$245.55, 2019: \$213.66, 2020: \$241.60, 2021: \$262.68, 2022: \$260.49, 2023: \$308.88.</p> <p>BOTTOM LINE: I request the UTC's final decision ensures that PSE's past debt/arrears costs are NOT passed on to the paying customers in good standing with the company. As you can see from above, all customers have been on the hook for a lot of adjustments, changes, upgrades, operating costs, etc over the last 7-years. I would recommend the UTC and PSE work together to figure out other alternatives to recoup past due debts with customers in arrears.</p> <p>R/ Evan Davies</p>
	Carrie McDougal	E-mail	<p>I am against raising the rates yet again as it seems to happen every 6 months.</p> <p>Not everyone is a teacher, works at a fire dept, police dept or construction</p> <p>I am personally very conservative and it's getting tooo crazy!! Covid is over so stop the covid prices!!!</p> <p>Carrie McDougal</p>
	Jim Brass	E-mail	<p>Please do not allow PSE to raise the rates anymore. The costs are already crippling are budget. Up at least 30% from last year.</p>
	Amber Gilroy	E-mail	<p>I strongly oppose the increase proposed by PSE. Our rates are already extremely high and it is a hardship on many to afford the cost. Please put Washington's residents first!!</p> <p>Amber Gilroy</p>
	Pat McGiffert	E-mail	<p>Thank you for holding the public comment hearing yesterday, Feb 8th at 6:00 pm.</p> <p>We have been responsible paying the PSE bill and now we are faced with covering the costs of those who didn't or couldn't keep up with theirs.</p> <p>In response to that I suggest that we use care in managing our energy costs. We already have an</p>

unprecedented homeless situation and PSE sent out a flyer that it has unprecedented unpaid bills. With lots more worried about being able to continue to keep up with rate increases, on top of property tax increases, in my case those taxes have more than doubled since 2015.

PSE is a monopoly in our region, owned by foreign investors since 2009. PSE just completed permitting for the huge Energize Eastside project contested by the neighborhoods. In the face of so many that struggle with the rates as they are now, is that a fiscally wise route as rates will increase for that project as well? Increased rates is for the good of the investors, rather than local homeowners and renters.

More dependable power could be solved in less costly more forward thinking ways. One way is with batteries that hold a reserve of flowing, back up energy, as has been done in California and Australia to name a few places. In the Nov. 9th, 2023 hearing report, the HE did not refer to the CENSE expert witness, 35 page report. The final decision by the HE was made available Dec 22 with only 5 working days to appeal during Christmas time. I followed the on line City of Bellevue guide for making appeals with a response late afternoon, Jan 3rd "Thank you for sending this appeal notification, however I need to inform you that the city of Bellevue is not the proper place for this appeal."

But even upon the Energize Eastside project being completed, it will not solve power outages as some commenters at the Nov. 9th hearing seem led to believe. Strong winds, branches and trees down in neighborhoods, wires are damaged. Equipment fails like the fiber optic cable that caused PSE to ask us all to reduce our energy use during the recent freezing weather. Hospitals have generators for alternative energy. I worked for years at UWMC that had backup power. A number of homes also have that, or batteries, to carry them through outages.

I ask that wise decisions be made for a resource, so critical to so many, held by a monopoly. Please help keep rates manageable.

Thank you for taking my comment.

			Pat McGiffert
	Floyd Johnson	Phone	Floyd Johnson I wanted to voice my opinion on this raising the rates. We're paying enough now. This 3% per year is ridiculous. No on more taxes. 2-8-24 at 736 pm from above number.
	Peggy Tyrell	Phone	Please do not let PSE increase their utility rates. I'm on a fixed income being a senior citizen. Peggy Tyrell. 208-24 at 1019 pm
	Ty Wheeler	Phone	Ty Wheeler. Calling about raising prices on electricity. I just bought my first house in January 2023. It's already hard to live. Everything is expensive. The economy hasn't come back from COVID. There are wars going on. If you guys raise the rate of gas, I'm going to get priced out of my own house that I just bought. I'll have to sell it and I'll have to live somewhere else. I'm not the only one. There will be hundreds of people. People my age don't even buy houses because it's so expensive. It's not right for you guys to raise prices. You guys are going to be living well while everyone else is struggling. If anything, it should go lower right now to help combat inflation. I hope you guys can rethink raising the rates for the power bill. 2-9-24 at 335 am
	Nicolina Neilson	Phone	Nicolina Neilson. I don't need a call back. I just wanted to raise my concern and express that I am strongly opposed to raising our utility bills, especially power bills, because they are already astronomically high. 2-9-24 at 631am
	Cheryl Erbe	E-mail	I am totally against any more increases to my PSE bill. I am also against the stopping of Natural Gas suppling. They are stating that they will stop supplying Natural Gas soon. My house depends on Natural Gas. As my fireplace, My heater, and my Hot Water uses Natural Gas. What do they expect us to not heat our homes anymore, or to have any hot water. This is the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard. They complain that everyone is using to much electricity. But yet they want to completely make everyone use only electricity.

			<p>Please do not allow them any more increases or let them stop supplying gas. I keep my bill current every month. As a matter of fact I have and keep a negative balance on my account, just in case I have to skip a payment.</p> <p>Thank you for your consideration in this matter, Cheryl Erbe</p>
	Melody Dougherty	E-mail	<p>Good morning!</p> <p>Please STOP INCREASING our rates!!! It seems like there's a rate increase every month. Our family includes our 90 yr old mom and she dresses warmly and wears blankets to keep warm. We have our thermostat at 65 at night and 68 during the day. If you're moving around it's okay, but if you sit down you're cold and have to wrap up in blankets. The family wishes we would turn up thermostat a little but we say "no can't afford to" and if you continue to do rate increases we'll be forced to turn down or off the heater.</p> <p>We also don't leave lights on and try to conserve where we can.</p> <p>I honestly don't know how seniors living on a fixed income can even pay their energy bill.</p> <p>Melody Dougherty</p>
	Paula Landis	E-mail	<p>I am against the utilities raising our rates. This would cause a hardship on us.</p>
	Dwain Wolfe	E-mail	<p>Please know we need to fight hard against dam removal in Washington state. We can't be promoting all these electric cars and then remove the cleanest source of power we have.</p> <p>Please also do all you can to keep our power bills down. Rates need to stay competitive with Tacoma Power, and other providers here in the region. My bills are already 600-700 each month. Many people could not afford such rates.</p>
	Kathy Doolan	E-mail	<p>Stop raising rates!!!!</p> <p>Between PSE and the WA State legislature, pretty soon people won't be able to eat anything besides cereal and mac'n'cheese. Maybe an apple once in a while.</p> <p>Just like the legislature, PSE thinks people have bottomless pockets!</p> <p>No, no, no on tearing down the Snake River Dams!!!! We need them!</p>
	Wil and Lesley Salmonson	E-mail	<p>We recently learned that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increase due to PSE trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those that have not paid, not the responsible ones who have. This Robin</p>

			<p>Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived and don't put the hard work into being responsible. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbor didn't waive a bill, PSE did. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of their decision making and not look to us to fix a bad business decision. We have no other energy option, have constantly seen increases we cannot control, and are fighting inflation and reduced wages. This increase would actively hurt good hard working Americans for one companies profit margin. Please do what you can to not increase rates.</p> <p>Thank you, Wil and Lesley Salmonson</p>
	Lyudmila Kustenka	E-mail	<p>I'm against increasing PSE bill</p> <p>Lyudmila Kostenko</p>
	Martin Ravenel	E-mail	<p>I live in Lakeland hills Auburn and am AGAINST the bill to raise any rates.</p> <p>Martin Ravenel</p>
	Kristina M. Allen	E-mail	<p>Good morning, I wanted to express our displeasure at pse looking to raise rates due to other people not able to pay their electric bill. Our rates have already gone up significantly from last year. We pay our bills on time and live within our means. Because others are in a situation where they vacant pay their bills they need to be held accountable and maybe forgo other things like cigarettes, alcohol, cable tv etc. The government has help for people on low income to pay bills, why should everybody else be responsible for those who can't or don't pay their bills. Please do not make us have another rate increase! Thank you, Kristina M. Allen</p>
	Therese Burns	E-mail	<p>I am a retired old lady living on a small pension and no social security. Please, please don't raise rates. I like eating visiting my grandkids. Food & gas is where it comes from. I have NO disposable income.</p>
	Gail	E-mail	<p>No way should hard working, bill paying residents pay for handouts that were given and not even vetted properly. You chose to forgive them, so put them on a payment plan, and leave our rates alone. NO RATE INCREASE!</p>
	Nicolina Neilson	Phone	<p>Nicolina Neilson. I don't need a call back. I just wanted to raise my concern and express that I am strongly opposed to raising our utility bills, especially power bills, because they are already astronomically high.</p>

	Julia Warren.	Phone	<p>Julia Warren. My concern is that there are small families that are just trying to live life and you're raising more rates. Some of us aren't even out of the COVID catastrophe. People aren't able to breathe. Please hold this off a little longer. I'm a little homeowner with a tiny little house. I understand we keep raising things, but there are people like me who try to follow the rules of the law but we won't be able to live here. Have a good day.</p> <p>847am</p>
	Melody Dougherty	Phone	<p>Melody Dougherty. Do not increase our PSE bills. We are paying enough and we can't afford to keep going up and up.</p> <p>916am</p>
	Tina Champeaux	E-mail	<p>To Whom This May Concern:</p> <p>I was on the Zoom meeting for public comment at 6 pm last night that addressed PSE and changes to policy.</p> <p>I was disappointed at the attendance of roughly around 30 people. Skagit County has a population of around 132,000 in 2023. I was aware of this meeting because I still receive a paper bill though the print is so small one needs a magnifying glass to read the content about the public hearing.</p> <p>The common thread from the comments given by attendees echoed my own comments.</p> <p>Responsible people such as myself are paying their bills while others are not. This has caused a current problem that basically, affects the responsible among the population. We cannot sustain ourselves with the irresponsibility of others receiving free housing, free utilities and heating, and a multitude of other freebies.</p> <p>Right now we are being asked to cut utilities which has resulted in some customers wearing heavy clothing and coats to keep warm in their homes, lowering temperature settings, and non-heating parts of their homes. Moreover, we were asked to cut our heating during flex times in some of the coldest below freezing weather.</p> <p>One cannot even imagine how these increased rates and utility shortages will affect farming in general, our food supply, and farming businesses.</p> <p>Solar panels do not work well in Western Washington, and one cannot begin to imagine what charging</p>

			<p>up mass electric vehicles from the grid will do. In addition, let's not forget the genius of tearing down the Snake River dams.</p> <p>My PSE "budget" bill increased from \$250 to \$500 every two months. Fixed incomes cannot sustain themselves over complete irresponsibility.</p> <p>Everyone must be accountable including companies, corporations, government, and our elected. This problem is not fixed by further overburdening the overburdened.</p>
	Bob and Karen Hoyt	E-mail	<p>We DO NOT want our utilities provided by PSE to increase inn costs!!!!!!!!!!!! We just had pne and other things are increasing elsewhere. We are on fixed income. Please, no increases!!!!!!!!!!!!</p> <p>Bob and Karen Hoyt, Buckley</p>
	Erika Panzer	E-mail	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I live in Bonney Lake with my Fiancé and our 2 yr old son. I have a disability that prevents me from working so my fiancé is financially supporting the household. He has paid our bills even with previous increases. My fiancé is 38 and has no savings, no college fund for our child, and not even a penny for retirement; there's nothing left after bills are paid.</p> <p>This new rate hike is unethical. We can't get our power from anyone else, it's monopolized, and we're being taken advantage of.</p> <p>After what happened to the price of houses and rent in these past yrs, and inflation, utilities cannot be hiked further for unfair reasons. What will happen when less people can afford their power bills following an increase? Please, do not approve this, wages aren't going up anytime soon, this isn't sustainable for Americans.</p> <p>Thank you, Erika Panzer</p>
	Peggy Shekem	E-mail	<p>To Whom it May Concern:</p> <p>None of the regulations and proposed policy changes for energy production and use are designed to serve us, the people.</p> <p>Electricity rates are sky-high already and, at the same time, electricity production is being decreased. All</p>

			<p>while the government is pushing mandates forcing conversion from traditional sources of energy to electricity (EVs, for example, and outlawing gas-powered appliances, tools, etc.). Not only is this kind of thinking backward and destructive, it is plain stupid. No one eliminates what is available and necessary to sustain life in hopes that a future untried and so far unproductive “something” will takes it place.</p> <p>We need to use everything we have now to produce electricity—more nuclear energy is the most tried and true, efficient, safe, and productive source. Other sources may be developed in the future that can be added to our arsenal but they do NOT EXIST now.</p> <p>We cannot afford the policies being proposed by PSE and driven by a short-sighted government.</p> <p>Please do not approve any of these policies and roll back to giving us, the people, access to the energy we need and possess as a nation.</p> <p>Peggy Shekem</p>
	Terrence Brennan	E-mail	<p>External Email</p> <p>Hello, my name is Terrence Brennan.</p> <p>It has come to my attention recently that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increased due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some ratepayers to not pay their bills for months or even years at a time.</p> <p>I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those that have not paid, not charging the ratepayers more who are meeting their obligations.</p> <p>We are already paying more for NG due to the CCA, a government imposed tax. It added \$32+ last month alone.</p> <p>Please do not increase rates.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Terrence Brennan</p>
	Todd Durgan	E-mail	<p>hello, my name is Todd Durgan, I recently learned that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increase due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those that have not paid, not the</p>

			<p>responsible ones who have. This Robin Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived and don't put the hard work into being responsible. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbor didn't waive a bill, PSE did. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of their decision making and not look to us to fix a bad business decision. We have no other energy option, have constantly seen increases we cannot control, and are fighting inflation and reduced wages. This increase would actively hurt good hard working Americans for one companies profit margin. Please do what you can to not increase rates.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Todd M Durgan BSBA, MSM</p>
	Eileen Dupras	E-mail	Do not raise rates! Please
	Marina Golubtsova	E-mail	<p>> I am unemployed, and already can barely afford the payments I will be homeless if you increase them any higher!</p> <p>Sincerely, Marina Golubtsova</p>
	Angelina Mayorova	E-mail	against increasing utility bill
	Frank Daehne	E-mail	<p>Please no rate increase, we are being taxed to death as it is in Washington state with gasoline, property, school, sales and now capital gains!!!!</p> <p>Regards Frank Daehne</p>
	Alex Majorov	E-mail	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Alexander Mayorov and I am a long-time resident of Kirkland, WA. I want to let you know that I oppose announced utility rate hikes by PSE. PSE is a for-profit monopoly in Western Washington which reported over \$250M of profits in 2021 and utilities are already too expensive for the average household.</p>
	Stan Hart	E-mail	<p>Hi,</p> <p>I'm a citizen living in Kirkland, WA. I'm very concerned about a new utilities increase that has already been increased in 2023. After quick searching, it appears PSE has a net revenue of hundreds of thousands</p>

			<p>of dollars per year (according to 2022 and 2023). Considering it's a monopoly, it's unclear why government would allow it to increase its revenue even more, while regular people like me suffer from inflation, prices increase, tax increases, etc. While I understand they need to make money to get projects done, it appears to me that \$200+ million dollars of net revenue would be sufficient for this, and this can be revisited later, when that revenue drops for one or another reason.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Stan Hart Kirkland WA</p>
	Christy Humphries	E-mail	<p>I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed rate increases by Puget Sound Energy. As a member of the community, I am worried about the potential impact these increases could have on the affordability of essential services and the well-being of our surrounding communities. While I understand the need for utility companies to cover their costs and invest in infrastructure improvements, it's crucial to ensure that any rate adjustments are reasonable and considerate of the financial strain many families are already facing. With the rising cost of living and economic uncertainties, a sudden increase in utility bills could place an undue burden on households, particularly those already struggling to make ends meet. Furthermore, I am concerned about the broader implications of these rate hikes on our community's economic vitality. Higher utility costs could deter potential businesses from establishing roots in our area, hampering local growth and job opportunities. Before any rate increases are implemented, I urge Puget Sound Energy to thoroughly assess alternative solutions and explore avenues for cost containment. Additionally, I encourage transparency and public engagement throughout this process to ensure that the voices and concerns of residents are heard and considered. As a valued member of this community, I believe it's essential for Puget Sound Energy to prioritize affordability and sustainability while fulfilling its responsibility to provide reliable energy services. I respectfully request that you take these concerns into account and reconsider the proposed rate increases. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing your response and working together towards a solution that benefits all members of our community. Sincerely, Christy Humphries</p>
	Dinah	Phone	<p>I understand we're at risk for PSE increases due to the company trying to recover lost profit from folks who do not pay. I wanted to say PSE should focus their collection efforts on people who don't pay, not the people who pay. I don't think it's fair for those of us who are on top of our payments.</p> <p>117pm</p>

	Jeff Phillips	E-mail	<p>Is anyone looking at the impact of these increases to customers or is the commission not concerned. Furthermore what is the plan to reach net zero by 2030, form PSE. Right now the public is not aware of anything. So instead of us paying the increased cost what the state really wants is for everyone to go on some substance program. Again not sure where the funds for this would come from but that is the thinking you are doing. Implement a program and figure out how to fund later. Or is this another to have folks move out of state so you don't have to be concerned about supporting such a large population</p>
	murat Shekem	E-mail	<p>External Email PSE Changes to Policy I am extremely disappointed in your approach to energy. You have not shown any concrete evidence that any of your green alternatives to energy, whether wind or solar, will be able to replace current (and necessary) energy supplies, yet you continue to advocate for it by trying to get your public to continuously reduce consumption while advocating raising costs for it. How about looking at hydroelectric improvements or nuclear power as more reliable and economical sources of energy? Thank you for your consideration.</p>
	Chuck and Toni Wilson	E-mail	<p>Please don't raise our utility bill We are in our 80s and everything keeps increasing except our income. Chuck and Toni Wilson</p>
	Violet Wilson	E-mail	<p>To whom it may concern: NO, please don't raise the utilities rates!! It's already quite expensive to live in WA! Thank you! Violet Wilson</p>
	RW	E-mail	<p>Comment: If I understand this correctly, PSE has had a problem collecting payments from a number of customers and are trying to move their burden of non-payments (arrearages) to paying customers. I'm sure there is a protocol for collecting from those who don't pay. Why hasn't PSE used those means to collect? I suggest that PSE accept a lower bottom line (in other words, lower profit) until they have fixed the collection problem themselves rather than look to paying customers to fix their problem. Not having access to PSE's financial records, one can only assume that PSE isn't going bankrupt, especially not with all the increases customers have been paying to accommodate a green approach. This is a privately owned company that should clean up its own house and not expect its customers to do it for it.</p>

			<p>Your responsibility is to the majority and I would dare say that the majority of your customers do pay their bills. As one person stated on the February 8 zoom call, we aren't given choices as to who can provide us with our gas. We can't go switch to another provider to show our displeasure. If you end up charging your responsible paying customers, the supposed comment hearing held on February 8th will prove only to be a side show, not PSE acting in good faith.</p> <p>From the list of companies and organizations mentioned at the beginning of the Zoom call on February 8th, including the Sierra Club, that oppose PSE collecting arrearages from paying customers, it's not just your customers who believe PSE is overstepping their monopolistic bounds by holding customers responsible for their negligence. And even if PSE has allowed bills to slide out of kindness, someone in the Finance Department should have seen this coming long before it got to such a problem.</p>
	Julie Dickason	E-mail	<p>I'd like to comment on last night's meeting regarding PSE's Petition to raise rates. I too am a senior citizen on a fixed income struggling to pay my bills. I should not have to make up the revenue deficit for those who defaulted on their debts with years of increasing rates.</p> <p>Why can't PSE legally pursue those individuals that incurred the cost of heating their homes? The information of individuals to set up an account and billing is available to PSE. I was in favor of providing relief to individuals who were unemployed and in need during covid, I'm not happy about paying for services I personally did not use.</p> <p>The national government is who mandated the pause in collecting monies due. I would assume public utilities will be awarded compensations from the government for THEIR DECISION to pause collections. Has PSE requested relief from any governmental entities for this short fall?</p> <p>One last point I'd like to make. I have no other alternative to explore another provider to service my heating needs. At this point I would change my carrier if I could. Does PSE have a monopoly in this area?</p> <p>Thank you for your time. Julie Dickason from Shoreline</p>
	Erin Khromyckina	E-mail	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I am writing this email to formally express our family's strong opposition to the proposed bill increase by PSE. We believe this increase is not justified and would like to voice our concerns regarding its impact on our community.</p>

			<p>Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p> <p>--</p> <p>With kind regards, Erin Khromyckina</p>
	Tom Giese	E-mail	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I don't see a strong justification for rate increases given recent rate increases that have already been enacted and recent trends pertaining to inflation and cost of natural gas and resources used to generate electricity. I hope you deny any currently proposed rate increases until there is a more established trend and greater justification. Thank you.</p> <p>Tom Giese</p>
	Lisa Gaerttner	E-mail	<p>To whom it concerns:</p> <p>It rates keep going up most family will have to choose between heating your home or eating. Things are getting out of control</p> <p>Lisa Gaerttner</p>
	April Kendall	E-mail	<p>To whom it may concern,</p> <p>I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the proposed rate increases by Puget Sound Energy. As a member of the community, I am worried about the potential impact these increases could have on the affordability of essential services and the well-being of our surrounding communities. While I understand the need for utility companies to cover their costs and invest in infrastructure improvements, it's crucial to ensure that any rate adjustments are reasonable and considerate of the financial strain many families are already facing. With the rising cost of living and economic uncertainties, a sudden increase in utility bills could place an undue burden on households, particularly those already struggling to make ends meet. Furthermore, I am concerned about the broader implications of these rate hikes on our community's economic vitality. Higher utility costs could deter potential businesses from establishing roots in our area, hampering local growth and job opportunities. Before any rate increases are implemented, I urge Puget Sound Energy to thoroughly assess alternative solutions and explore avenues for cost containment. Additionally, I encourage transparency and public engagement throughout this process to ensure that the voices and concerns of residents are heard and</p>

			<p>considered. As a valued member of this community, I believe it's essential for Puget Sound Energy to prioritize affordability and sustainability while fulfilling its responsibility to provide reliable energy services. I respectfully request that you take these concerns into account and reconsider the proposed rate increases. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing your response and working together towards a solution that benefits all members of our community.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>April Kendall</p>
	Crystal Rebman	E-mail	Please don't raise the bill for pugit sound energy customers!
	Ali Al Hashemi	E-mail	<p>I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed increase in utility bills currently under consideration. My name is Ali Al Hashemi, and I am a resident of Auburn, WA residing at 2305 54th St SE.</p> <p>As a homeowner and ratepayer, I am deeply concerned about the financial burden this increase will place on myself and many other families in our community. Many residents are already struggling with rising costs of living, and this additional expense will only exacerbate our difficulties.</p> <p>I urge you to reconsider this proposal and find alternative solutions that do not place such a significant burden on your customers.</p> <p>I am not alone in my opposition to this increase. Many residents in Lakeland hills Auburn and across the state share my concerns. I urge you to listen to the voices of your customers and reconsider this proposal.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Ali Al Hashemi</p>
	Maryc	E-mail	<p>No on Dockets UE-220066 Credit and collections</p> <p>No on Docket PSE UE -220067</p>

	Joeen Prowdy-Black	Phone	UE-220066 and PSE petitions and final order UG-220067. I want to urge you to not raise our rates. I believe you are trying to collect increase due to the company trying to recover lost profits for users that didn't pay. Go after those people who did not pay their PSE bills. Joeen Prowdy-Black
	Candy Helm	Phone	Candy Helm. I believe PSE should focus on those who have not paid and not on those who have. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of waiving bills. We are fighting inflation and reduced ages. Docket UE-220066 and UG-220067. I'm in the Buckley area.
	Chris Moore	Phone	Chris Moore. I am leaving a message regarding my latest PSE bill, which skyrocketed by almost \$100 in less than a month. These increases have to stop.
	Marcy Lynn Percival	Phone	PSE customer. We're on social security. Our income is so limited that we cannot afford another increase on anything. We would have to go without power and freeze in the winter or give up eating. There are so many of us that are on fixed incomes that just cannot afford all these increases. We try to monitor our usage but there is not enough public assistance to help us. It's gotten to be too much
	Larry R. Jensen	E-mail	<p>The common thread from the comments given by attendees echoed my own comments.</p> <p>Responsible people such as myself are paying their bills while others are not. This has caused a current problem that basically, affects the responsible among the population. We cannot sustain ourselves with the irresponsibility of others receiving free housing, free utilities and heating, and a multitude of other freebies.</p> <p>Right now we are being asked to cut utilities which has resulted in some customers wearing heavy clothing and coats to keep warm in their homes, lowering temperature settings, and non-heating parts of their homes. Moreover, we were asked to cut our heating during flex times in some of the coldest below freezing weather.</p> <p>One cannot even imagine how these increased rates and utility shortages will affect farming in general, our food supply, and farming businesses.</p> <p>Solar panels do not work well in Western Washington, and one cannot begin to imagine what charging up mass electric vehicles from the grid will do. In addition, let's not forget the genius of tearing down the Snake River dams.</p> <p>Here are my comments: It disturbs me that we are moving to eliminate the use of natural gas and other fossile fuels and at the same time experiencing price increases for electric. You, we, all of us need to push back and say no to forcing electric on us as the only energy source. We need a diversified energy source and policy that goes along with it. Does it make sense to bring a pipeline down from Canada to burn natural gas to make electricity and at</p>

			<p>the same time stop homes from burning natural gas for heating and cooking?</p> <p>It also infuriates me that programs pushed upon us to pay for other users who refuse to work or refuse to budget their own usage are asking those that are responsible to pay for them. Please make sure that users are rate payers. I have several rentals, and some include electric. When the rates go up so must the rent. Many of my tenants can't afford higher rents and if I cannot not afford to cover the increase I have no choice but to close the rental unit and put them on the street. This would not be good for them, me, or the community.</p> <p>Stop the insanity and let nonpayers find other solutions then piling the cost of nonpayers on those that do pay.</p> <p>Larry R. Jensen</p>
	Anita	E-mail	<p>PSE has got to lower their prices. America is hurting bad enough, without paying higher cost on power. Families can't afford it, and there is no reason to rise it. Someone has to put his stop for them of raising prices for everyone. Sent from my iPhone</p> <p>Anita ☐</p>
	Dale Lindsey	E-mail	<p>Dear PSE,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please do not jack up our prices again. Some of us live paycheck-to-paycheck and can't afford your already outrageous price for natural gas.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>A long time customer.</p>
	Alya Boyarin	E-mail	<p>I am against increasing utilities. Only my husband work and I'm in school. I had a stroke last year, we have medical bills to pay. Rent increase every year and it's so much to pay for the housing. I don't want to become homeless.</p>
	Donna Lynn	E-mail	<p>Do not raise the electric again, I'm disabled and work 15 hours a week to make ends barely meet. I don't qualify for help because of the 15 hours a week I work. Please leave it alone, I know elderly in my 55 &</p>

			over park that can't afford it at all, ther under a ton of blankets trying to stay warm during the winter or coming to my house at night.
	Mike Steinthal	E-mail	I'm a senior citizen leaving on a fixed income and my PSE is already a substantial monthly expense! Please do not approve another rate increase for gas or power. Mike Steinthal
	Delbert and Katrina oxborrow	E-mail	I don't agree that PSE should be allowed to increase our power bill at such large increments. Our income doesn't increase to keep up with such large increments. Their goals and spending need to be done over a longer-term. Thanks Delbert and Katrina oxborrow
	Kara Vanous	E-mail	We are against ALL increases on our utilities and especially our natural gas. Natural gas is some of the cleanest energy available and it is wrong for PSE to continue to raise rates so people have to stress about having basic necessities for their homes and families. Kara Vanous
	Rodger Huska	E-mail	Hello, Just a quick comment...I vote a hard no for any rate increases for customers of PSE for utilities. The rates have already increased and are becoming unmanageable for people. My bill last month was \$125 more than the same period as last year with the same amount of power usage. I called PSE, I looked at the numbers I didn't use any more power this year than last. My bill was \$408. I live alone. I keep the thermostat at 68 when I am home. Down to 60 when I go to bed and when I'm away at work 45 hours a week. Only keep one light on in whatever room I'm in and one TV for about two hours a day. I've shut the heat registers in two bedrooms and my den. My windows are eight years old and all of my appliances are energy saver and all of my light bulbs are LED. My furnace is only seven years old. I really can't think of anything I can possibly do to use less power. The bill is just out of control. It is becoming unmanageable on a \$40,000 gross annual income. The subject of PSE and this years bills comes up in a high percentage of my conversations with friends, neighbors, family and at work. The public can not financially absorb another increase from PSE. Everything is so high and has gone up so much since Covid and the increases from PSE has been far more percentage wise than any other in my household budget. It is my largest bill next to my mortgage and property taxes. The publics wage increases are not keeping up. I prioritize and budget and don't carry personal debt and don't spend money on new things

			<p>or clothes or eating out. My car is seven years old. I'm only able to save five percent of my income for retirement and keep a small emergency fund. No money for a weekend getaway and certainly not a vacation.</p> <p>No increases, please!!!</p> <p>Barely making it on \$40,000 a year,</p> <p>Rodger Huska</p>
	Darin Padur	E-mail	<p>We don't want to be California. Rates are too high. Eliminate the carbon tax and ridiculous clean energy waste of money.</p> <p>Darin Padur</p>
	Donna	E-mail	<p>Sent from my iPhone Please NO increase in our PSE bill. It's enough already. Thank you, Donna Bartholomew</p>
	Cheryl Howick	E-mail	<p>Please find a way to stop any rate increases. We can barely get by as it is with the cost everything going up so much!</p>
	Cindy Weston	Phone	<p>Cindy Weston from Bonney Lake, WA. I am vehemently against the rate increase for PSE. I am willing to get solar panels or whatever else to bypass PSE, who I feel is gouging the consumer. Other places that have a separate utility, such as Spanaway and Parkland are paying markedly less than we are. I do not support this at all</p>
	Susan Vickerman	Phone	<p>Susan Vickerman. Buckley. I am a PSE customer. I would appreciate no more rise in the cost of your services. It is so high now, it is really hard to make ends meet. I'm a senior.</p>
	Kathy Wilson	E-mail	<p>Kathy Wilson. Do not raise the rates.</p>
	Ralph and Charlene Meyer	Phone	<p>Please do not increase our utility rates.</p>
	Charlene Meier	E-mail	<p>Please don't increase our rates. P & C Meier</p>
	David Simpson	E-mail	<p>***See attachment for comment***</p> <p>Dear Sir or Madam: I have attached comments on Puget Sound Energy's Petition to Amend Final Order, which I request the parties to consider, as part of the public comment process.</p>

			Thank you, David Simpson
	Anthony Williams	Web	I think this is another tax on the poor. Shame on you for doing this in the middle of a recession. It is hard enough out here without you making people choose between heat and food.
	ABDEL HAMID ZEGHMI	Web	PSE proposes that its "good" customers, who pay their bills, should also pay the uncollected revenue in bad debts. Moreover, PSE does not even offer to pay back its customers (who covered the bad debts) when it collects the bad debts. This is a strange way to do business: asking the "good" customers to cover for PSE business losses. We oppose PSE petition and suggest that alternative power utility companies be considered. Ref: Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918 (Consolidated).
	Michael A Drouin	Web	Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918 (Consolidated). If PSE is allowed an increase in monthly electrical rates to pay for past-due/arrear balances, what is going to keep PSE from writing off these amounts as 'loses' for tax years 2020-2023?
	James McCartney	Web	PSE has proposed rate increases to my bill in dockets UE-220066 & UG-220067 and I disagree with their reasoning on why I should pay more. After 10 years of inheriting my dead mothers house, I have never missed a payment. Also in order to lower my winter bill of over \$420, I purchased the most energy efficient Lenox heat pump system for \$20,000. As a result of PSE's increases so far, my last winter bill payment was \$404! I can NOT afford an increase in any form. Especially since I did everything to reduce my power consumption and it doesn't matter if they just keep hiking up the rates. I have had PSE come out repeatedly to evaluate my house on how make my house energy efficient. I have followed ALL recommendations and barely seen a decrease in my bills. I only \$1,300 a month, how would I be able to afford the rate increase?
Undecided			
	Randi Sanders	E-mail	I find it very interesting and worth the further investigation of the Commission to discover why, in the same mailing, PSE informs customers of this hearing and also urges customers to take advantage of their Bill Discount Rate program. Why are they promoting discounts while seeking greater leeway in their ability to dun customers in arrears? It would seem that the result is customers find it easier to run up bills and are then more vigorously hounded for payment.
	Rosalyn Rom	Web	Comments typed verbatim per consumer request by Sam Cooper after call to the CP hotline. The consumer would not answer if they were in favor or opposed to the proposal, and was upset when commission staff asked, so staff selected "undecided." I am not happy with the fact that a company that is not in the United States is controlling our utility rates.

			Give it back to the United States. I don't, I don't know why we have to pay the Canadian government to govern our utility rates. I'm going to tell everybody I know.
	Paula Czarnik	Web	I do not understand all the information provided to me. However, as a PSE customer who pays their bills monthly, I do not believe raising rates to all customers due to an abundance of bad debt due to customers who do not pay their bills is fair. This comment is in reference to Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067 and UG-210918 (consolidated,
	Elko & Conni Reinecke	E-mail	As current PSE customers, we want to email as residents regarding the constant PSE rate increases. Please know utilities and living costs are at a all time high right now, it is very hard to make ends meet AND pay all our home bills. While we understand the need for power and how the power grid works, the constant cost and rate increases seem unnecessary. I know the power grid is struggling which is why it makes no sense the state of WA has chosen to remove natural gas from homes in 2025 and are working to take down our dams. If it wasnt for our home having natural gas in it - there is no way we could afford to run it on just electric. I just want to make sure electricity isnt our only choice as that would be a monopoly and that the companies like PSE are monitored when increasing prices and rates to maintain fair and normal increases. I hate seeing families struggle to just keep lights on. Thank you for listening to our concerns! Thank you, Elko & Conni Reinecke
	Paige Ropac	E-mail	Hello, I would just like to make a comment on how high my electric bill was January. My bill was nearly doubled for this month than in previous January's. I did not use any more electricity than I normally do. I keep my furnace between 58' and 63' Not sure if this is a huge inflation but it seems a little excessive for inflation and no notice was sent to inform of a price increase that I remember seeing. Thank you for your time. Just was voicing my concerns. Paige Ropac
	Randy L. Mouw	Web	This is in reference to Docket s UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918 (Consolidated). Simply put, I am going to be forced to pay for someone else's energy. If there were a way to make sure that the recipients of my dollars were hard-working, prudent, frugal individuals with the money they do have, I would not write this note. I believe that many, many, many are not that type of individual and the more

			<p>handouts (which is what this will be, courtesy of me any many like me) that these folks can somehow arrange, more of their hands will be held out to take them. Not paying for what one receives, when it is effective in getting things for nothing, only spawns more people who see that as the way to get things (rather than work hard and sacrifice). I do understand the difficult position of PSE - it has to pay it's bills. It just seems obvious that PSE has over-extended its kindness and, as I said earlier, bred more hands held out and more bills unpaid. Giving more hand outs (paid for by other people) always results in more hands held out to take them. Please quit giving handouts unless you can devise a perfect, efficient, dollar-effective way of actually determining who truly deserves them and distributing them, and who has simply learned that they can milk the hand-out system. No one has ever done so. Neither can you. Quit giving them and folks like me will no longer have to pay for them. Your practices are costing many their hard-earned dollars. It is a hard reality, but if people didn't pay and you no longer gave them energy, this would not be happening. You would be teaching people something other than how to milk the system and creating dependency in society which is far more wide spread than just PSE. When will we ever learn.....</p>
	Emily Watson	Web	<p>RE: Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918</p> <p>This appears to be an ongoing issue with outstanding balances and collection of unpaid account. I am undecided on whether to endorse or oppose this issue coming before the state because I do not have any information about how this will affect me as a consumer, beyond the suspicion of the rates I pay increasing. I do recall a recent approval of a 10% rate increase to provide investors with a return higher than any other stockholders or bank accounts at the time it was approved.</p> <p>I know I am frustrated because the state has restricted the utility from cutting off service to a customer who is past due and continues to be past due. Yet, there is no compensation from the state to the utility to continue to provide service without payment. I am also frustrated as a customer who foregoes luxuries of internet service, cable tv, and apple phone products to make sure my mortgage and utilities are paid, even when my income suddenly stops. I would prefer, as a responsible person, to not have to cover the cost of Puget Sound Energy having to do business with persons no so responsible.</p>
Yes			
	Richard B Bell	E-mail	<p>Gentlemen.</p> <p>I've read your information leaflet sent with my most recent bill concerning your credit and collection process. If I read this correctly, you have petitioned the UTC to allow an adjustment to your present process due to an increase in past due balances. If your petition is denied in total or in part, you intend on an ever-increasing rise in the bills of your customers who actually do pay their bills in full. BRILLIANT!! Punish those of us who pay on time and in full to recover the non-payments of those who just skip paying. Why don't you consider cutting the salaries of those charged with the collection of unpaid bills. Why is it that you think the only solution to a dilemma YOU created is to punish those who have consistently done the right thing. I'm fed up with being robbed after doing the right thing for all these years, What happens if I, and many others like me , just stop paying our bills or just refuse to pay any increase that is enacted</p>

			<p>to pay for those who have not paid. Your tferred solution is not a solution at all</p> <p>Richard B Bell</p>
	Cindy Bowles	E-mail	<p>It is wrong to pass uncollected debt and costs on to honest, responsible customers. By passing this debt on, it de-incentivizes those who do pay their bills and may struggle to do so. Why would you pay, if you know that ultimately any debt will be covered by other rate-payers?</p> <p>Cindy</p>
	Brenda Supasatit	E-mail	<p>Please hear the voice of residential and small business owners who are being asked to bear the brunt of others not paying their utility bills during covid. Covid is over and so should the special handling of those who are not paying or who are being asked to pay for overdue bills.</p> <p>As PSE mentioned, they are a Washington State investor-owned utility. What they are being asked to shoulder is not reasonable. The people of Puget Sound can step up and pay their bills! Please allow them to adjust their existing credit and collections processes. COVID IS OVER!</p> <p>I am a both residential and small business customer. Thank you for your consideration of my viewpoint and let PSE move forward with needed adjustments to its credit and collection processes.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Brenda Supasatit</p>
	Ibtapps@comcast.net	E-mail	<p>There is a lot of confusing terminology in this petition's information. What I get out of it, is I am going to be paying more for power because I am paying someone else's bill. I am old and on a fixed income. I worked hard to get where I am and am still having a hard time paying for all my utilities as it is and now I am going to be paying more because of all these people that cannot or will not pay their bills. I pay mine and I do not want to be paying for other people's bills. You need to collect the money owed in another way – not from customers that pay their bills even though they are old and on a fixed income. I definitely vote against another rate increase – having trouble keeping up with it as it is.</p>
	Larry Johnson	E-mail	<p>I received in my latest bill from PSE information regarding a Public Comment Hearing for Puget Sound Energy's Petition to Amend Final Order.</p>

			<p>I understand that PSE wants to cover their costs for collections of those subscribers who do not pay their bill or do not pay their bill on time.</p> <p>These customers may be having financial issues that affect their ability to pay, or they may put off paying because they feel PSE will do nothing about it. All businesses have these issues with customers. Businesses with the best record for current and on time payments from customers generally do the best job in underwriting the customer before accepting them and then if there is a late payment problem do the best job in contacting the customer, working with them, if possible, and staying in contact. It is not just accepted that the business cannot do anything about it, so let's just push that cost on to other customers in the form of higher rates. But it appears that PSE is doing just that, wanting to push their increased cost for poor business practices on to their paying customers.</p> <p>The problem with this process, in addition to being unfair to those who actually pay their bill on time, is that by raising the costs to those who do pay their bill will affect those who are on the margin of being able to afford their bill or not. There will be some folks who have been struggling to pay on time that will now not be able to do so. There may also be some who understand, reasonably so, that since PSE is passing unpaid bills to those who do pay that there may be an opportunity to also stop paying and just let PSE pass it on to others.</p> <p>I would hope that PSE improve its business practices so that they no longer have a "current level of past-due balances (that) is much larger than any other Washington State investor-owned utility in terms of total dollars." This statement was included in the information letter from PSE. This self-indictment of having less efficient business practices than its competitors should not automatically allow PSE to transfer the costs on to its subscribers.</p> <p>The Job of the UTC is to provide service providers with an adequate return on their investment, but this process does not excuse poor management. The costs of less than high levels of competence should be borne by the utility, not its customer base.</p> <p>Hopefully you agree.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Larry Johnson</p>
	Richard Egan	E-mail	<p>In response to Puget Sound Energy "Petition to amend Final Order". I do not believe it would be fair to raise rates to customers that paid their bills on time.</p> <p>Those customers that did not pay their bills during the COVID 19 error, should be forced to pay back</p>

			<p>with interest! If they do not comply in a timely manner, then they should lose their service until their bill is paid in full.</p> <p>A benevolent fund could be set up with customers and public donors for donating funds to assist those customers in need of paying their unpaid account.</p> <p>I believe this is a better approach than forcing loyal customers to pay for other customers delinquent accounts</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sincerely, Richard Egan</p>
	Scott Shock	E-mail	<p>Dear UTC,</p> <p>My comment is in support of Puget Sound Energy's (PSE's) Petition to Amend Final Order (re: Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918). As a customer in good standing with PSE for decades, I strongly argue that it is only fair to all PSE customers that PSE be allowed to modify its credit and collections processes to improve the recovery of unpaid debts. I believe the commission should facilitate an environment that deters customers from avoiding payment for services provided, and facilitates utilities in obtaining settlement of those debts.</p> <p>thank you, Scott Shock Seattle</p>
	Bill Powers	E-mail	<p>In my December Puget Sound Energy billing I received a notification of a request to you, Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission, to amend an order requesting to cease its existing credit and collection process. You, UTC, indicated you would deny part of the request. The pandemic is over. It is time for those that are able to go back to work, to do so and pay their delinquent bills. PSE's paying customers can not afford to pay for delinquent and uncollected revenue for those that are not paying their bills. Inflation has hit all of us, not just those with bad debts.</p> <p>During the pandemic I took three adults into my home (I am a widower) to help these three people out until they could get back on their feet. In doing so my utility bills skyrocketed. I got letters from Puget Sound Energy saying my energy usage was too high. I replied that there were now four people in the house. I still got letters saying my energy usage was too high. Since then two of the three have left but one still comes back to do her laundry at my house. My PSE billing has dropped considerably. I am an automatic withdrawal customer.</p> <p>My point is that I sacrificed during the pandemic to help others. I should not now be penalized again</p>

			<p>because certain people refuse to pay their delinquent Puget Sound Energy bills.</p> <p>According to my PSE letter, customers are taking an unprecedented advantage of PSE's credit and collection agreement. It needs to be stopped and delinquent billings paid.</p> <p>Thank you, Bill Powers</p>
	Stephanie Carter	E-mail	<p>Hello,</p> <p>I live in Bellingham and I received a notice in my monthly bill from Puget Sound Energy.</p> <p>The notice is regarding the dockets listed in the subject line of this email.</p> <p>I realize these issues can be complicated and there are multiple perspectives on how to proceed.</p> <p>I simply would like to say that I am a senior citizen living on a fixed income and with a mortgage.</p> <p>While I am sympathetic to people who can't pay their bills, it doesn't seem fair to increase my rates.</p> <p>My annual income is slightly above what is allowed to help seniors with property taxes.</p> <p>So my property taxes continue to increase significantly and there is nothing I can do about it.</p> <p>I always pay all of my bills on time and I'm grateful that I can.</p> <p>But I don't have a lot left over each month.</p> <p>I certainly don't want my PSE bill to increase indefinitely because others can't or won't pay.</p> <p>I appreciate your consideration of my perspective.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Stephanie Carter</p>
	Daniel Delorenzo	E-mail	<p>UTC,</p> <p>We are a group of concerned citizens that are very concerned with the increasing scams and deadbeats</p>

		<p>that scam the system knowing in this new political environment that they can get away with it. The percentage of the public that ignore fiscal responsibility is increasing mainly because they have found they can get away with it in this new Woke socialist society where business owners and government are afraid to stop crime and deadbeats who have figured out that " NOT PAYING for goods and services pays off. The fact PSE's past due balances have increased 127% and are higher than any other Washington State investor-owned utility is not surprising based on your failures that allow bad debts to grow. Here are a few things you might consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Require Utility Deposits2. After 2 months of not paying a bill cut off the customer's power.3. Do the same thing over and over and expecting a different result is insane.4. PSE has allowed this situation to worsen. <p>Shop lifting, drugs, car thefts, home burglaries etc are also up and it is because we have become a Socialist society that disrespects law and order and the rights of law abiding citizens.</p> <p>If you want to change bad debt problems stop allowing it to continue.</p> <p>Regards,</p> <p>The Moral Majority and Citizens for Accountability</p>
	Vipul Patel	<p>E-mail Hello UTC</p> <p>I would like to provide feedback on the dockets UE-22066, UG-220067, UG-210918</p> <p>As a utility customer residing in Bellevue, WA (serviced by PSE), I have increased expenses of living, but I always believe that everyone should pay their fair share of usage. What I am seeing is that because of the lax "collection policies", the utility company cannot collect from certain customers and I run the potential risk of paying for the shortfall in terms of increased utility bills.</p> <p>This is really wrong for me, because despite any challenges, I have managed to pay bills for what I use. When things were tough, we reduced consumption to match what we can afford. We should not be asked to pay for this.</p> <p>Instead, the utilities should be empowered to go after payment defaulters to prevent this "handout" behavior we are seeing from select customers who used but are not paying.</p>

			<p>Please make it fair for everyone by empowering the utility companies to go after those people who are not paying.</p> <p>Regards Vipul</p>
	Daniel Sandlin	E-mail	<p>If you are having problems collectng past due balances, then turn their electric off. Don't ask your bill paying customers to cover your deadbeat customers. I realize this is a liberal state but what if the resr of us quit paying?</p> <p>Dan Sandlin</p>
	Bud and Marilyn Truscan	E-mail	<p>PSE. As you can see, we have been PSE. customers for many years and never missed a payment, in fact we were PSE stock holders for many years also. Also, as you can see we are on your AUTO PAY PROGRAM so we never miss a payment and you draw it when you say it is needed. Honestly, this is not fair to any of us to have to pay the penalty for others, go after them or cut them off, garnish their wages.</p> <p>Charles M. Truscan</p>
	Crystal	Web	<p>Increasing energy costs (again!) would be harmful for families, especially one income families Energy costs are already SO high!</p>
	Brandon Adams	Web	<p>I write in favor of PSE's proposed changes in Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918.</p> <p>Our economy is thriving, and subsidies are available for the poor. Please do not redistribute the costs of delinquent customers on to paying customers.</p>
	John Giuliano	Web	<p>Referring to docket UE-220066 , UG-220067, and UG210918 - Forcing my electricity provider to cancel these debts will increase my monthly bill. Since the requirement to extend the grace period was due to the mini-recession caused by Covid and the various government mandates, the private sector will need time and relief from onerous restrictions to deal with the debts currently outstanding. It will not harm any constituents of our state to extend the time to do so.</p>
	Alan Winkley	Web	<p>Reference dockets: UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918 I argue that it is prudent to accept the requested amendments which PSE has petitioned, because current (overly lenient) policy of "bad debt" write-offs does and will continue to encourage customers to waste energy, rather than saving energy. If customers believe that they can consume the utilities energy without</p>

			<p>paying, then there is no incentive for them to save energy. By fostering this irresponsible attitude on the part of customers, and given the fact that PSE's electricity is still largely derived from burning fossil fuels, the current policy of "bad debt" write-offs will indirectly contribute to air pollution and worsen the global warming trend. Current policy sends the WRONG MESSAGE.</p>
	Lynae Craig	Web	<p>Regarding PSE Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918 (consolidated) I support Puget Sound Energy's petition to amend Final Order 24 issued December 22, 2022. I support PSE modifying its credit and collections practices prior to the conclusion of the rule making in Docket U-210800. While PSE has extended significant energy assistance to customers, the level of past due balances has continued to grow. It's not fair to customers who continue to pay energy bills on time to be forced to pay higher and higher energy costs to offset those who don't pay. That only increases the number of households that potentially will not be able to afford energy. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this Petition.</p> <p>Sincerely, Lynae Craig PSE Customer</p>
	Deb Heintz	Web	<p>If not allowed to recoup past due balances it falls to those of us who are barely making ends meet ourselves. Stop putting the burden on others make individuals responsible for their own actions. Allow PSE to adjust it's collection processes now.</p>
	Mark Idler	Web	<p>RE: Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067 & UG-210918</p> <p>I agree with the requests of PSE to be able to address , as soon as possible, it's unprecedented debt of unpaid energy bills during the pandemic. They must be given the ability to recoup as much of this debt from those that owe it immediately.</p> <p>I fear that if not allowed to do so, the rest of their customers (us), will end up bearing this burden through increased rates etc.</p> <p>The average customer is struggling enough right now with the increased inflationary costs on virtually everything. We cannot also add covering the huge debt of those that owe past bills they haven't paid.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
	Jeffrey Roberts	Web	<p>docket UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918</p> <p>Please allow our utiiliites to stop service to people who are refusing to pay their bills. it is insane to think that any business can continue to operate without people who are willing to pay for the service they receive. Utility service is a priviledge not a right, and we already have in place ways to help those on hard times, but when people refuse to pay indefinitely, the utility must have the ability to terminate service so that the rest of its customers can continue to enjoy affordable rates.</p>

	Norville Clark	Web	I feel it is wrong for Retired Fixed income people who pay there bill to face higher rates because some people don't pay there bills. The state should be able to make a policy to address this in a short period of time instead of taking over a year to do it.
	Lynae Craig	Web	Regarding PSE Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918 (consolidated) I support Puget Sound Energy's petition to amend Final Order 24 issued December 22, 2022. I support PSE modifying its credit and collections practices prior to the conclusion of the rule making in Docket U-210800. While PSE has extended significant energy assistance to customers, the level of past due balances has continued to grow. It's not fair to customers who continue to pay energy bills on time to be forced to pay higher and higher energy costs to offset those who don't pay. That only increases the number of households that potentially will not be able to afford energy.
	John W. Kohler,Jr.	Web	Regarding: Docket s UE-220066, UG-220067 and UG-210918 (Consolidated) The ill-conceived energy policies of President Biden and Governor Inslee which are based on the notion of natural and ordinary changes in climate have made the cost of fossil fuels and other forms of energy needed to power our economy untenable and should be abolished. That being said PSE ratepayers who are already hard pressed to afford these costs should not bear the additional costs of those who despite available public and private assistance with their energy expenses are delinquent in their payments. Much of this is a function of the Feds and the States adherence to DEI policy as well as the allowance of millions of illegal migrants into America and Washington state. My record as a PSE customer is perfect. I have no delinquent balance. The high cost of energy forces me to keep my thermostat at 50 degrees. I should not nor should any conscientious PSE customer and rate payer have to bear the cost of those who don't pay their bills regardless of circumstances. I want PSE to be able to take any and all measures necessary to collect payment for past due balances including the cut off of energy to these same customers. These are hard times. Conscientious customers are doing their part. They should not have to pay for those who won't or can't pay. PSE should be able to adjust its existing credit and collections processes so that it can effectiveley collect any payment and balance due.
	Roger Lillejord	Web	Re: Docket UE-220066, UG-220067, UG-210918 Bad policy thought up and implemented in May 2020 that has allowed customers who routinely pay their utility bill become additionally and continually responsible for those who haven't been paying for their own utility usages. It's wrong and businesses and utilities cannot operate in that manner.
	Garrett Robinson	Web	I am a PSE customer calling in reference to docket UG 220067. I'm calling to support PSE's request of you to petition to the amend first order, because if you don't approve it we will be subjected to abnormal rate increases and that is not fair because they have a lot of in debt and so you need to approve their request.

	Gary Robertson	Web	Gary Robertson. Federal Way PSE customer. Supports their petition to amend final order 24 issued December 22, 2022 with docket number UE 220066, UG 220067, and UG 210918. (Left voicemail on 12/6-23 at 12:21 PM).
	Rose Marie King	Web	Ref Docket UE-220066 ,UG-220067, UG-210918(consolidated) I am not in favor of PSE raising my rate because of uncollected revenues in bad debt write offs. I skimp and save in order to pay my own higher winter bills not other people's bills.
	Deb Heintz	Web	If not allowed to recoup past due balances it falls to those of us who are barely making ends meet ourselves. Stop putting the burden on others make individuals responsible for their own actions. Allow PSE to adjust it's collection processes now.
	Alex Ramuglia	Web	Regarding Dockets UE-220066, UG-220067, and UG-210918 (consolidated) - I support PSE's position to modify its credit and collection practices. It's not fair for utility rate payers like myself to have to subsidize non-payers. The commission should allow PSE to proceed with its proposed collection practices to pay down its debt.
	Deb Heintz	Web	If not allowed to recoup past due balances it falls to those of us who are barely making ends meet ourselves. Stop putting the burden on others make individuals responsible for their own actions. Allow PSE to adjust it's collection processes now.
	Brigitta Jones	E-mail	<p>To Whom it may Concern:</p> <p>I am unable to attend the public hearing on Feb 8, 2024 and would like my comments included. I am in favor of this petition being approved so PSE energy can collect on unpaid balances. There are many programs out there to assist people with their energy bills if they are having a hardship and cannot pay. At this point the majority of people who are not paying their bills are doing so due to laziness or irresponsibility. It has been my experience, when helping others, if you call PSE and let them know you are having a problem paying your bill, they do everything possible to direct you to resources and assist you while you are in the process of getting assistance. People who don't communicate they are having a hard time are not being helped by keeping their power on no matter what. In my opinion allowing people to freeload when there is assistance available is a co-dependent behavior that only fuels irresponsibility and does not help them in the long run. PSE energy needs to have healthy recourse options if people are refusing to pay their bill because they know PSE can do nothing about it if they don't pay.</p>
	Tandi McAlister	E-mail	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I am unable to attend the public hearing on Feb 8, 2024 and would like my comments included. I am in favor of this petition being approved so PSE energy can collect on unpaid balances.</p>

			<p>A few points to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are many programs available to assist people with their energy bills if they are having a hardship and cannot pay.• At this point the majority of people who are not paying their bills are doing so due to laziness or irresponsibility --- The money has to come from somewhere – It seems that people who are being responsible will be carrying the load• PSE is known to do all they can to help people who are struggling, by directing them to resources and assistance to help.• It’s not truly helping people when they are being allowed to freeload while there is assistance available - - This only fuels irresponsibility• PSE needs to have healthy recourse options if people are refusing to pay their bills just because they know PSE can do nothing about it if they don’t pay. <p>Thank you for your consideration, Tandi McAlister</p>
	Robert Odermann	E-mail	<p>As a long time PSE customers, we are appalled at the news from credible sources and your own publications, that your company has asked for significant rate increases. Some increases are targeted to pay for losses incurred due to dead beat customers who did not pay their bills during the last few years, including during the pandemic. PSE, as a private company, excused these customers from paying their bills?</p> <p>We, as customers since the early 1970’s along with thousands of others, through good times and bad, have never missed a payment. We, along with thousands of others, definitely do not want to pay other peoples bills. Most likely, a majority of these dead beat accounts are people taking advantage of free service.</p> <p>What happened to good business practices? If people who receive goods or services do not pay their bills, they do not get the goods or services!</p> <p>Individuals, all people, must be personally responsible for their own actions. This includes all debts for goods and services purchased. It is called personal responsibility. We, in the past, delayed many purchases for many years, just so we could pay our basic bills.</p> <p>We, as lower middle income people are disgusted and angry. We cannot afford to pay for dead beats. We have experienced enough rate increases recently for various reasons, paying dead beat customer bills is a non starter! Responsible bill payers will no stand for it.!</p>

			Robert Odermann
	Laurie Ekberg	E-mail	<p>Hello PSE, No, I do not want to pay for your other customers, who did not pay their bills. I am a Senior Citizen on a set income, which is limited. I cannot afford this. Turn off the electricity when customers do not pay their bills.</p> <p>Thank you Laurie Ekberg</p>
	Janet Ting	E-mail	<p>As a Kirkland residence who pays their utilities on time, I should not have to pay an increase in base rate to cover for those residences who don't pay their bills. Get your money from those people and don't punish people who pay their bills.</p> <p>Janet</p>
	Laura Farrar	E-mail	<p>Greetings, Our names are John and Laura Farrar. We live at 11311 201 St Ave E, Bonney Lake (Rhododendron Park), and we recently learned that we are at risk of having our PSE bills increase due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those who have not paid, not the responsible ones who have. This Robin Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived and don't put the hard work into being responsible. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbor didn't waive a bill, and PSE did. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of their decision-making and not look to us to fix a bad business decision. We have no other energy option, have constantly seen increases we cannot control, and are fighting inflation and reduced wages. This increase would actively hurt good, hard-working Americans for one company's profit margin. Please do what you can to not increase rates. Thank you</p>
	Rebecca Kalmbach	E-mail	<p>Hello, my name is Rebecca, I recently learnt that we are at risk of having our PSE bills increased due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those that have not paid, not the responsible ones who have. This Robin Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived and don't put the hard work into being responsible. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbor didn't waive a bill, PSE did. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of their decision making and not look to us to fix a bad business decision. We have no other energy option, have constantly seen increases we cannot control, and are fighting inflation and reduced wages. This increase would actively hurt good hard working Americans for one companies profit margin. Please do what you can to not increase rates. Thank you</p>

John Bailey	E-mail	<p>Hello</p> <p>My wife and I are residents of Bonney Lake, WA. I am also a Washington native and have lived in WA state for 54 years.</p> <p>We both vehemently oppose and disagree with the premise of these bills. We have always paid all of our bills, including PSE, on time, even in times of financial hardship. We also do not have any alternative of a Utility Company aside from moving to the expensive costs of Solar power.</p> <p>Laws and 'rules' are there for a reason - you have a bill for use of a service, or purchase of a product - you don't pay that bill you should be punished in some format - NOT punish those that have always paid their bills on time.</p> <p>It is unclear to me the logic behind these proposals and why anyone who does pay their bills for PSE would feel it is also their responsibility to bear the burden of paying those for those who don't.</p> <p>Unfortunately, we do not have an option of choosing another Utility company - so there is the monopoly that you also hold over us, which truthfully makes this proposal even more abusive.</p> <p>If we were able to vote on these proposals, we would clearly vote a hard NO as well as any of those that I speak to about it.</p> <p>1) Credit & Collections docket #UE-220066 2) PSE Petition to amend final order #UG-220067</p> <p>Thank you for hearing our voices here, your customers. I hope they are getting heard.</p> <p>Sincerely, John Bailey</p>
Ashley Escudero	E-mail	<p>Hello,</p> <p>My name is Ashley. I recently learned that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increase due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their efforts on those who have not paid, not charging those responsible for those who have. This Robin Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbors didn't waive a bill, PSE did. I believe it is PSE's responsibility to manage this business decision in a way</p>

			<p>that does not charge their paying customers more for their mistake.</p> <p>We already have no other energy options, have seen increasing rates, and are constantly fighting inflation in all areas of life without increasing wages. This is yet another increase that would hurt the members of this community all to pay for a mistake a corporation made.</p> <p>Please consider doing everything you can to not put further strain on our struggling community.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Ashley Escudero</p>
	Stacey Chin	E-mail	<p>hello, my name is Stacey Chin I recently learnt that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increase due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those that have not paid, not the responsible ones who have. This Robin Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived and don't put the hard work into being responsible. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbor didn't waive a bill, PSE did. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of their decision making and not look to us to fix a bad business decision. We have no other energy option, have constantly seen increases we cannot control, and are fighting inflation and reduced wages. This increase would actively hurt good hard working Americans for one companies profit margin. Please do what you can to not increase rates. Thank you</p> <p>Stacey Chin</p>
	Sarah Nelson	E-mail	<p>Utilities are luxuries which can be trimmed past a certain point. It's not like Starbucks where I can just choose not to spend my money.</p> <p>I am disabled living on a small income. I have to go through my budget again to see what we can trim because we're just not making it as prices continue to rise but income does not.</p> <p>Don't do this to the community you are supposed to serve. Please don't raise utility prices.</p>
	Sarah S. Nelson	E-mail	<p>Please don't do this. Utilities aren't luxuries we can cut back on to save money. This isn't like Starbucks hiking prices.</p> <p>I am disabled living on a small income. Our household income has stayed the same but expenses have skyrocketed. I'm already asking how we're going to survive.</p>

			<p>Don't hurt the people you are supposed to serve. Don't raise prices.</p> <p>Sarah S. Nelson</p>
	Jerry Daniels	E-mail	<p>Stop the money grab!!! buying votes by giving our money to goldbricking welfare recipients needs to stop. everyone will be on welfare. then who will pay. ive been here for 60 years, used to be a nice place to live. now it looks like a 3rd world human cesspool in a giant landfill, thanks to promoting homeless, hopeless, irresponsible behavior</p>
	Susan Dawson	E-mail	<p>Hello, A neighbor who attended the PSE Public Hearing regarding increasing utilities suggested that any of us who do not want more cost increases to contact you to express our feelings.</p> <p>Please stop increasing our bills. It is becoming harder and harder to keep up with the cost of living. I for one am on disability and have a fixed income. I do not go out to restaurants or movies or anything else. I buy the most inexpensive food I can find. I use Mint Mobile for \$15 a month for my cell phone. I am running out of places to cut back on in order to pay things that are essential. I understand business as I was a Buyer for Costco before my disability. You would think with all the people who have moved to this region in the last year or two that PSE's bottom line has been growing as well so why punish your customers?</p> <p>Please stop raising our bills</p> <p>Thank you</p>
	Michelle Merkley	E-mail	<p>Hello, my name is Michelle Merkley,</p> <p>I recently learned that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increased due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those that have not paid, not the responsible ones who have.</p> <p>This Robin Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived and don't put the hard work into being responsible. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbor didn't waive a bill, PSE did. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of their decision making and not look to us to fix a bad business decision.</p>

			<p>We have no other energy option, have constantly seen increases we cannot control, and are fighting inflation and reduced wages.</p> <p>This increase would actively hurt good hard working Americans for one companies profit margin.</p> <p>Please do what you can to not increase rates.</p> <p>Thank you!</p> <p>Michelle Merkley</p>
	Cheryl Erbe	E-mail	<p>hello, my name is Cheryl Erbe, I recently learnt that we are at risk for having our PSE bills increase due to the company trying to recover lost profit from allowing some users to not pay for months or even years at a time. I believe PSE needs to focus their collection efforts on those that have not paid, not the responsible ones who have. This Robin Hood method is trying to take from the average American struggling to get by and give to people who had their bills waived and don't put the hard work into being responsible. I didn't waive a bill, my neighbor didn't waive a bill, PSE did. PSE needs to deal with the consequences of their decision making and not look to us to fix a bad business decision. We have no other energy option, have constantly seen increases we cannot control, and are fighting inflation and reduced wages. This increase would actively hurt good hard working Americans for one companies profit margin. Please do what you can to not increase rates. Thank you</p> <p>Cheryl Erbe</p>
	Mary Hadley	E-mail	<p>I do not support an increase in my electric. I am still making payments on this Winter cold. Retired with fixed income. Mary Hadley</p>
	Alan Heyntsen	E-mail	<p>Very well said.</p> <p>On Sun, Feb 11, 2024 at 1:02 PM Larry Jensen <lrayjensen@hotmail.com> wrote: PSE and the Utility Commission,</p> <p>I understand that there as a online meeting Thursday night 2-8-2024 about rates.</p> <p>Here is what a friend reported to me.</p>

The common thread from the comments given by attendees echoed my own comments.

Responsible people such as myself are paying their bills while others are not. This has caused a current problem that basically, affects the responsible among the population. We cannot sustain ourselves with the irresponsibility of others receiving free housing, free utilities and heating, and a multitude of other freebies.

Right now we are being asked to cut utilities which has resulted in some customers wearing heavy clothing and coats to keep warm in their homes, lowering temperature settings, and non-heating parts of their homes. Moreover, we were asked to cut our heating during flex times in some of the coldest below freezing weather.

One cannot even imagine how these increased rates and utility shortages will affect farming in general, our food supply, and farming businesses.

Solar panels do not work well in Western Washington, and one cannot begin to imagine what charging up mass electric vehicles from the grid will do. In addition, let's not forget the genius of tearing down the Snake River dams.

Here are my comments:

It disturbs me that we are moving to eliminate the use of natural gas and other fossile fuels and at the same time experiencing price increases for electric.

You, we, all of us need to push back and say no to forcing electric on us as the only energy source.

We need a diversified energy source and policy that goes along with it.

Does it make sense to bring a pipeline down from Canada to burn natural gas to make electricity and at the same time stop homes from burning natural gas for heating and cooking?

It also infuriates me that programs pushed upon us to pay for other users who refuse to work or refuse to budget their own usage are asking those that are responsible to pay for them.

Please make sure that users are rate payers. I have several rentals, and some include electric. When the rates go up so must the rent. Many of my tenants can't afford higher rents and if I cannot not afford to cover the increase I have no choice but to close the rental unit and put them on the street. This would not be good for them, me, or the community.

Stop the insanity and let nonpayers find other solutions then piling the cost of nonpayers on those that do pay.

			Larry R. Jensen
	Sally Ransom	Phone	Sally Ransom. I don't want PSE to increase our bills.
	Terry McNeil	Web	Please approve the PSE request to adjust its credit and collections processes now as continuing the present policies would cause a general increase in pricing to all people who do pay there bills. There has to be an end to the government giveaways at some time, you can't keep giving away the taxpayers money forever.
	Gerald A Ulsund	Web	I support PSE's request to amend Final Order 24, issued December 22, 2022. PSE wants to remove the term due to changing conditions such as unprecedented past-due balances. Without this change they may pass on the costs of collection and bad debt write-offs to we everyday consumers. We need PSE to have more ability to collect what they have coming and not put it on the backs (bills) of us.
	DONALD VALLEJOS	Web	<p>REF DOCKETS UE-220066 / UG-220067 / UG-210918</p> <p>I pay my Utility bills on time, always have. I am retired now (Oct 2022) and read in my latest Billing Statement from PSE that they have filed a Petition to adjust its credit and collection processes before the conclusion of Docket U-210800. If not, us paying customers could be facing higher energy costs due to covering the costs of uncollected revenue in bad debt writeoffs. How can this be tolerated, penalizing those that pay their bills on time and those that are retired with limited income having to cover those that do not. Shopping Malls are FULL TO CAPACITY along with parking lots at Shopping Centers. People HAVE the money, they are simply ignoring their responsibilities. Do the right thing and allow PSE to collect what is owed to them and avoid penalizing the elderly and retired!</p>