August 5, 2013

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
P.O. Box 47250
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
Olympia, WA 98504-7250
Docket #UE-120767 (and UG-120768)
RE: Comments on Puget Sound Energy's Integrated Resource Plan

Dear Chairman Danner and Commissions Members,

On behalf of the students of Bellevue College and President Rule, we the Associated Students of Bellevue College would like to present you with two letters commenting on Puget Sound Energy Integrated Resource Plan (IRP). We understand that you have been charged with the difficult task of reviewing all comments for the IRP and appreciate your time considering our concerns and recommendations.

Bellevue College has taken a number of measures to promote environmental sustainability throughout our campus and community. As a signatory of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), Bellevue College has taken steps to reduce its carbon emissions by nearly 65% by 2050. Contributing to this effort is the Revised Code of Washington 70.235.020 which requires that state-funded institutions must meet greenhouse gas reductions by 2050. To accomplish this, Bellevue College has turned to transportation programs, energy conservation, and alternative energy sources, including a newly installed photovoltaic solar array. As PSE continues to install larger wind and solar facilities, we ask that PSE continue leading our state, and our nation, in the same way that our college does.

The commitments by PSE towards encouraging energy efficiency, seeking alternative energy sources, and promoting its 'Green Energy' program have led Washington down the path toward abandoning dirty fuels. Nevertheless, we must not ignore the fact that sourcing energy from the eighth-largest polluting coal plant nationwide damages these efforts. Instead of contributing to the degradation of the air, water, and land in other states, PSE can further promote its efforts nationwide as an example for other utilities. Washington's consumers, entrepreneurs, workers, community leaders and educational institutions are here to help make the transition away from dirty, dangerous, and increasingly costly coal. As an institution housed just a few miles from PSE's headquarters, Bellevue College possess a momentous opportunity to help PSE move away from coal and invest in a new generation of clean power. Recently, students launched the Coal Free PSE campaign on campus with the intention of bringing greater awareness of Puget Sound Energy's relationship with coal

The Bellevue College community has a unique voice in this matter. Since many BC students and staff are PSE customers, we can help remind PSE of the importance of making this transition. In a matter of only a few weeks, campaign volunteers gathered over 500 signatures from Bellevue College students and staff in favor of PSE abandoning the use of coal-fired power plants. Students are excited to have affirmed this level of support from the Bellevue College community in such a short time, and they firmly believe your support of the matter to be crucial to the success of this endeavor.

We have sent the 500 signatures, a student letter, and letter from our college's President, Dr. David Rule, with support from other colleges for your consideration.

Again, we would like to thank the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission for your consideration and look forward to working with you on making the PSE coal free.

Sincerely,

Merlan

Kazifi Yorebayash