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August 23, 2013

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW  
Olympia, WA 9850-7250  
Docket #UE 120767 (and UG 120768)

RE: Comments on Puget Sound Energy's Integrated Resource Plan

Dear Chairman Danner and Commission Members,

As a customer of Puget Sound Energy, I strongly object to their continuing to use coal as a major fuel source. We can no longer pretend that we don't fully realize the harm that burning coal inflicts on those living near coal-fired plants and on our shared environment. The science is clear and irrefutable.

Certainly, PSE should not be allowed to hide behind the argument that coal is cheap. Current lawsuits as well as the certainty of future lawsuits will add to the costs considerably. Bringing their Colstrip plant into compliance with existing and all but guaranteed future government regulations is not economically feasible.

With the continuing decline in the prices and the advancement in efficiency for both wind and solar power and progress being made in storage capability for intermittent energy sources, any planning or discussion for the future must include these clean, healthy and renewable sources as a major part of electric generation for PSE and logical alternatives for coal.

Certainly your responsibility must extend to the safety and welfare of current and future generations. Given all we know about the part coal plays in the disruption of our climate and the wildfires, droughts and sea level rises which endanger the lives and wellbeing of Washington state residents, it is time for the UTC to stop pretending that coal is an acceptable fuel for any utility operating in our state.

Sincerely,

J. Erika Shriner

