

**BEFORE THE WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**Docket No. UE-121373  
Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s  
Petition for Approval of a Power Purchase Agreement for  
Acquisition of Coal Transition Power**

**BENCH REQUEST NO. 001**

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- a) How many workers are employed by TransAlta Centralia LLC at the Centralia Transition Coal Facility?
- b) What would be the impact on the workers employed by TransAlta Centralia LLC at the Centralia Transition Coal Facility in times when such plant is shut down and TransAlta Centralia LLC would fulfill its obligations under the Coal Transition PPA by exercising resupply rights?

**Response:**

- a) Attached as Attachment A to Puget Sound Energy, Inc.'s ("PSE") Response to Bench Request No. 001, please find a letter from TransAlta Centralia Generation LLC ("TransAlta Centralia") to PSE, which states that approximately 255 people are currently employed at the Centralia Transition Coal Facility.
- b) Please see Attachment A to PSE's Response to Bench Request No. 001, which states as follows:

TransAlta [Centralia] has had a history of reducing the output from the facility during periods of maintenance and when surplus power is available in the market. There have been no layoffs of workers from [the Centralia Transition Coal Facility] on either a temporary or permanent basis as a result of periods when the output of facility has been reduced or curtailed for economic reasons.

As a prudent operator TransAlta [Centralia] redeploys labor during shutdown periods to work on major maintenance and other project activities at the facility. Use of our labor resources in this way, combined with the fuel cost saving realized as a reduced of lower amounts of coal being burned during periods of economic dispatch, help us to maintain a low cost structure. These operating practices give us the ability to offer the lowest possible long term stable

pricing to customers, such as that found in the Coal Transition Power Purchase and Sale Agreement with PSE.