



SustainableWorks

Conserving Energy. Creating Jobs.

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Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
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Olympia, WA 98504

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WASH. UT. & TP. COMM

September 24, 2013

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Re: Comments on Puget Sound Energy's Integrated Resource Plan, Docket #UE-120767 (and UG-120768)

Dear Chairman Danner and Commission Members:

I am writing on behalf of SustainableWorks to comment on Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) that is currently under review by the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC).

SustainableWorks is a non-profit Community Energy Efficiency Program (CEEP – RCW 70.260.020) funded through the State of Washington and operating in King, Snohomish, Pierce and Spokane counties to improve the energy efficiency of the existing building stock while providing quality jobs for Washington residents. We commend Puget Sound Energy for their conservation efforts to date, and the continued investment outlined in the IRP, but we believe there remains enormous potential to achieve even greater savings. Improving energy efficiency in structures is one of the most cost-effective means to meet energy requirements, and mitigate the social and economic cost of carbon.

Specifically, additional investment and partnerships with local CEEP programs to deliver conservation through these existing programs would significantly increase the effectiveness by utilizing already established community networks with municipalities, homeowners, and civic organizations and providing resources to leverage and drive deep energy conservation. Additionally, it is necessary to consider the impact conservation programs can have on the local economy and workforce. We wish to express our hope that the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) ensures the cost-effective delivery of energy efficiency measures avoid pressure to build a low-income specialty building trades workforce to achieve cost-effectiveness. Attention to the social and economic costs, as well the benefits is necessary to mitigate this potential unintended consequence on the economy.

SustainableWorks looks forward to continued engagement with the UTC and Puget Sound Energy as together we achieve economic prosperity and increased environmental health for Washington state.

Sincerely,

Tara Anderson
Managing Director, SustainableWorks