

Thank you for the opportunity to testify this evening.

My name is Marc Krasnowsky. I live in North Bend in east King County and am an all-electric customer of Puget Sound Energy. I am a volunteer for Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action, and I speak on behalf of that organization tonight.

PSARA is the region's progressive voice for older Americans, their children and their families. That means that in addition to working to improve Social Security and health care, we care about leaving a better world for all. And that means dealing effectively with climate change NOW.

We are affiliated with the Washington State Labor Council. Two weeks ago, the Labor Council passed a resolution noting that

- The working class, the poor and developing countries that will be most adversely affected by climate change”
- We may still prevent the most catastrophic levels of global warming if we eliminate the burning of fossil fuels worldwide within the next few years, which is perfectly feasible with existing technology;
- millions of good jobs can be created by increasing energy efficiency, ^{and} ~~reliance on~~ renewable energy, and ~~the rebuilding of~~ our infrastructure
- we must take steps toward ^{clean} a just transition for workers and communities directly affected by the transition to a ^{renewable} energy economy, providing income, benefit, wage insurance and retraining support for workers in the fossil fuel industries, and creating quality jobs in infrastructure, energy ^{and} efficiency, and ~~the clean energy economy~~.

Puget Sound Energy needs to get out of the coal business – and not just by switching its electricity production to another polluting fossil fuel. Extending Colstrip 3 & 4 beyond 2025 would be a disservice to all those now suffering and ^{will} soon to suffer more from global warming – and we know who ^{will} suffer most. It also would needlessly delay the just transition to a job-creating clean energy economy that working people and communities everywhere so desperately need.

Clean energy creates three times more jobs for every dollar invested than fossil fuels. Of course a fair transition requires those green jobs be family-wage, union (or at least prevailing wage) ~~jobs~~ with equitable pathways for local residents, communities of color, and lower-income communities.



Let's not get into a vicious cycle of extending the plant life and then the mine life. Workers and communities need certainty, a rapid-as-reasonable transition, and the knowledge that their needs will be fairly addressed in that transition.



PSE must commit to retiring Colstrip units 3 & 4 by 2025, ^{and assuring just transition for the workers' community.} and replacing their power completely with energy efficiency and new renewables. We ^{and} our utilities – can do this. In fact, it's the only reasonable, sustainable, fiscally responsible and **moral** path forward.

Thank you.



You may have noticed my Montana hat. I wear it in solidarity with ^{our brothers & sisters who} the ~~workers~~ and community of Colstrip, Montana. It's not their fault that the industry they work for is ~~destroying our world~~ and making life impossible for ~~their~~ children and ours. They deserve better than being tossed aside. ^{all of us}