

July 31, 2017

My name is Don Marsh, and I serve as the president of CENSE, the Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy. We are an organization of hundreds of Eastside residents who want the best possible energy solutions for our communities. For the past 3.5 years, PSE has been trying to sell us a dangerous and destructive transmission line that will place 230,000 volts in close proximity to two half-century-old petroleum pipelines and dozens of residential neighborhoods, parks, and schools. According to records filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, PSE has already spent \$26 million on this project, and we expect to see that expenditure brought forward in future rate case hearings, after detrimental impacts have already occurred.

CENSE believes there is a better way. Energy storage technology has become cost-effective, safe, and better for the environment than PSE's plans to build additional gas plants and over-sized transmission lines. Batteries improve the effectiveness of solar and wind-generated electricity, reducing carbon emissions. Batteries also provide better reliability than fossil-fuel and wired alternatives.

PSE has a financial incentive to disqualify batteries and other modern solutions. The company has done this using old data and questionable assumptions.

PSE must not be allowed to raise our rates to fund dirty, outdated infrastructure projects. CENSE and a growing coalition of environmental organizations want good data and a fair analysis of the need for these projects.

The Macquarie Group recently announced its intention to sell its interest in PSE. We want any potential buyer to know that there will be strenuous objections from ratepayers who will not sit idly by while our utility bills fund the ~~destruction~~ *degradation* of our communities and the environment.

Don Marsh, President  
CENSE.org

---