

Good afternoon. My name is Janet Hedgepath. I am a PSE ratepayer. I am here to ask you to deny PSE's request to pass expenses associated with Colstrip onto customers past 2025.

Coal is no longer a financially good choice on several levels. The cost to provide coal and the clean-up afterwards is costly to ratepayers and the environment. It is an outdated energy source and PSE needs to invest in affordable abundant energy rather than saddle us with costs from a rapidly disappearing past.

The cost of coal to the community is too high and unwarranted. Colstrip has already destroyed habitat and polluted ground water. Continued use of coal contributes to the acceleration of climate change. The forest fires and the resulting unhealthy air quality is dramatic evidence of the results of climate change. While everyone in the community is affected some people experience even more adverse effects. People who work outside, the elderly and healthy impaired and the homeless are even more adversely impacted. And we all shoulder the burden of higher public health costs and loss of human potential.

Finally, the cost of coal is costly to our economy. Continued use of an outdated system leaves us behind in a world moving toward clean energy. Rather than taking a lead in promoting the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan that calls for the phasing out of coal fired electricity sources by 2025, PSE is seeking to chain us to the past and hamper the economic viability of the Pacific Northwest.

Please do not let PSE profit from the last dregs of coal at the expense of their customers, the community and the economy.

Thank you for your time

Janet Hedgepath

Docket # UE-170034 and UG 170034

403 R St NE

Auburn, WA 98002