

UE-170033 and UG-170034).

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My name is Dan Streiffert and I am the current Chair of the Rainier Audubon Society located in South King County. We are deeply concerned about continued use of fossil fuels by PSE and the resulting CO2 emissions.

National Audubon's Birds and Climate Change Report, published in September 2014, confirmed that climate change is the single greatest threat to North American birds. Warmer temperatures are causing many birds to migrate further north each year. If one projects this trend very far, it suggests that many of these birds will be pushed out of their native habitat and into areas where survival may be uncertain.

Of the 588 species Audubon studied, 314 are likely to find themselves in dire straits by 2080. ***This amounts to more than half of the known bird species in North America!*** Many grassland species such as the Bobolink, may find themselves nesting in the boreal forests of Canada. It is unlikely that this habitat will be suitable for a grassland species.

Not only was 2016 the warmest year on record, but eight of the 12 months of the year—from January through September, with the exception of June—were the warmest on record for those respective months. October and November were the second warmest of those months, just behind records set in 2015. It was the 40th straight year in which global temperatures have been above the 20th century average.

Audubon asks that PSE retire all four—not just two—of the coal-fired boilers at the Colstrip coal plant and replace them with 100% renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions.

Elon Musk recently predicted that “Probably in 10 years, more than half of new vehicle production is electric in the U.S.” What a shame, if those EV's are fueled by dirty coal....

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