

To: STEVE King
From: DAVE BRADLEY (bradleydave2015@gmail.com)
Subject: Comments on PSE Rate Hearing

Notes for PSE Rate Hearing

- PSE needs to retire all four boilers at the Colstrip coal plant as soon as possible. Continued use of coal to generate electricity is inconsistent/incompatible with:
 - Current scientific information on the reductions needed to prevent serious impacts to global health and environmental impacts.
 - Recommendations from the Department of Ecology on the level of statewide GHG reductions needed between now and 2050.
 - Governor Inslee's 2014 Executive Order that includes steps to move away from coal.
 - Public surveys that show that there is strong support among northwest residents for greater use of clean energy technologies.
 - Reducing transportation through greater use of electrical vehicles. It is ridiculous that driving an electric vehicle in Olympia compounds Washington problems because so much of our electricity is coal-derived.
- PSE must replace Colstrip with 100% renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions. This is technically and economically feasible:
 - Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NWPCC) has determined that all new NW electricity needs between now and 2030 can be met with energy efficiency measures.
 - Mark Jacobson at Stanford University has estimated that Washington State can meet 100% of it's energy needs by 2015 with a combination of wind, water and solar. While Jacobson's work has recently received significant criticism, what the academic headlines obscure is that even Jacobson's critics see that it is feasible to meet 80% of energy needs with clean energy sources by mid-century.
 - The cost of clean energy continues to drop dramatically. Prices for wind and solar power both fell by more than 60% between 2009 and 2013. Some analysts predict cost parity with natural gas in the next several years.
- PSE must commit to building no new gas infrastructure.
 - Converting from coal to natural gas will provide some short-term benefits.
 - Unfortunately, investments in gas infrastructure will make it more difficult to move to clean energy sources that will be needed to achieve 80% reductions in statewide emissions by mid-century. That is my biggest concern as a PSE customer.
 - There is also a flip side for consumers. I am concerned that today's new gas infrastructure will become tomorrow's white elephants
- Bottomline – no coal, no new gas, more clean energy sources/efficiency measures

YALE CLIMATE STUDY Completed last year

68% of Washington residents support
a requirement that utilities produce 20%
of their electricity from renewable energy
sources

- This reduction is between now and 2050
- Government's 2014 Executive Order that includes steps to move away from coal
- Public surveys that show that there is strong support among north west residents for greater use of clean energy technologies
- Reducing transportation through greater use of electrical vehicles. It is estimated that finding an electric vehicle in Olympic country Washington would be because so much of our electricity is coal-derived
- 100% must replace coal with 100% renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions. This is technically and economically feasible
- Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NWPCC) has determined that all new NW electricity needs between now and 2050 can be met with energy efficiency measures
- Matt Jacobson at Stanford University has estimated that Washington State can meet 100% of its energy needs by 2015 with a combination of wind, water and solar. While Jacobson's work has recently received significant criticism, what the work has made clear is that even Jacobson's critics see that it is possible to meet 100% of energy needs with clean energy sources by mid-century
- The cost of clean energy continues to drop. In fact, the cost of wind and solar power has fallen by more than 50% in the last 5 years. Some analysts predict that solar power will be the most cost-effective energy source by 2020, just ahead of wind and natural gas
- Continuing to invest in gas infrastructure will make it more difficult to meet the state's energy needs in the future. That is why the state's energy plan should focus on clean energy sources
- There is also a flip side to the coin. It is estimated that 100% renewable energy will become a reality within 10 years