

**From:** [Gafken, Lisa \(ATG\)](#)  
**To:** [Mak, Chanda \(ATG\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Statement at PSE Hearing, retire Colstrip  
**Date:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 12:34:58 AM

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For inclusion in the public comments exhibit.

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-----Original Message-----

From: Donna Albert [<mailto:donna.albert@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 8:50 PM  
To: Gafken, Lisa (ATG) <LisaW4@ATG.WA.GOV>  
Subject: Statement at PSE Hearing, retire Colstrip

My name is Donna Albert. I am a professional Civil Engineer with a Masters in Civil Engineering, working for the State of Washington as an Energy Engineer.

My comment will be based on the assumption that the State of WA will reach near zero GHG emissions by 2050 or sooner, in the spirit of our Governors commitment to the Paris climate agreement. Over the years I have watched the IRPs which show PSEs future energy mix, and I don't see them planning a transition to wind, water and solar. Taking coal out of the mix is a necessary first step. The KEY to near zero GHG emissions from energy is fossil fuel free electricity, electrifying heating systems, and electrifying transportation. WA WILL NOT achieve the intent of the Paris agreement without fossil fuel free electricity.

In my daily work, I help municipal, school, college and state agency clients reduce their energy use. Many state agencies have facilities in PSE territory. Some of my clients have organizational greenhouse gas reduction goals. They can see that they cannot reach the goals they have set, and ask what the next step is.

I tell them they should expect electricity in WA to be free of fossil fuel by 2040, since developed counties will lead, and the world has committed to the Paris climate agreement. I tell them to electrify and not invest in natural gas infrastructure with a lifespan of 20 years or more.

Please require that investor utilities in WA create viable and affordable strategies for transitioning off of natural gas by 2040 or sooner, and implement those plans systematically. We have the technology now. Remarkably in the last year or so controls technology has developed which makes fossil fuel base load plants unnecessary. Batteries are also dropping in price. When PSE challenges you and says they can't do without the fossil fuels, require them to hire experts who understand how to use wind, water and solar to deliver reliable and affordable electricity. I recommend contacting utilities in other communities which are using 100% wind/water/solar electricity and contact Dr Mark Jacobson of Stanford University. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone