

From: [rejean idzerda](#)
To: [UTC DL Records Center](#)
Subject: comments on Dockets: UE-160918 and UG-160919
Date: Sunday, January 21, 2018 2:48:44 PM
Attachments: [UTC comment.docx](#)

Dear Commissioners,

As a PSE customer, I was astounded to learn that 59% of our energy still derives from fossil fuels. I was even more astounded that PSE, although planning to retire coal-fired energy production, intends to replace it with natural gas power rather than converting to renewables. We are at an energy crossroads. By adhering to fossil fuels, PSE is exposing us to unacceptable risks.

Liquid natural gas is primarily composed of methane, a much (25x) more powerful greenhouse gas than emissions from coal burning. Gas burns cleanly, but significant amounts are leaked during production and transportation both into the air and into ground water, causing grave environmental damage.

In addition to environmental damage, the impacts of natural gas production can be devastating to health. Respiratory and cardiovascular symptoms in individuals near fracking sites are common. Carcinogenic benzene, arsenic, hydrocarbons, endocrine disrupting chemicals and heavy metals have been found within hazard mitigation levels in both ground and surface water at fracking sites. In addition to headache, dizziness, disorientation, ear, nose and throat symptoms and seizures, these chemicals can affect blood and bone marrow and lead to anemia and immunosuppression.

Fossil fuels are not a long-term solution to our energy needs, and rate payers like me would bear the cost of future decommissioned facilities when PSE's new gas infrastructure becomes more expensive to operate than building renewable source capacity. The price of renewable energy has dropped spectacularly worldwide, and it will continue to fall. In many places, it already is less expensive and creates more jobs than fossil fuel sources. PSE is putting us at considerable risk by pursuing a short-sighted fossil fuel dependent agenda.

For the reasons outlined above, PSE's Integrated Resource Plan does not meet the standard of providing customers with "safe" service, which is the UTC's responsibility to ensure. Now is the time to make a commitment to a 100% carbon free energy future. I appeal to the UTC to make that happen.

Sincerely,

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