

WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION STAFF  
RESPONSE TO DATA REQUEST

DATE PREPARED:	November 14, 2012	WITNESS:	David C. Gomez
DOCKET:	UE-121373	RESPONDER:	David C. Gomez
REQUESTER:	Puget Sound Energy	TELEPHONE:	(360) 664-1240

**PSE Data Request No. 025 to WUTC Staff:**

Re: David C. Gomez, Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_ (DCG-1HCT), page 16, lines 8-9.

Is it Staff's position that PSE should terminate the Coal Transition PPA if the Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Washington and TransAlta Centralia LLC is terminated?

**RESPONSE:**

Yes. The MOA specifies the obligations required from each party as a result of the Coal Transition Energy Bill, E2SSB 5769. These obligations include annual payments by TransAlta totaling \$55.0 million to fund economic and community development in Lewis and South Thurston County. It is Staff's opinion that without the MOA, the term of RCW 80.80.060(1) that prohibits TransAlta Centralia from entering into a contract of five years or longer with PSE or any other utility in Washington, unless the greenhouse gas emissions performance standard is met, is in effect. Furthermore, the original benefits stemming from a public policy preference for coal transition power as found in Washington State Laws 2011, Chapter 180 is lost.