

Docket Nos. UE-190529 and UG-190530
(Consolidated) - Vol. II

WUTC v. Puget Sound Energy

January 7, 2020



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1 BEFORE THE WASHINGTON
 2 UTILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
 3 _____
 4 WASHINGTON UTILITIES AND.)DOCKETS UE-190529 and
 5 TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION,)UG-190530 (Consolidated)
 6 Complainant,)
 7 vs.)
 8 PUGET SOUND ENERGY,)
 9 Respondent.)
 10 _____
 11 PUBLIC COMMENT HEARING, VOLUME II
 12 Pages 20-85
 13 CHAIRMAN DANNER, COMMISSIONER RENDAHL AND
 14 COMMISSIONER BALASBAS
 15 _____
 16 January 7, 2020
 17 6:00 p.m.
 18 Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
 19 621 Woodland Square Loop Southeast
 20 Lacey, Washington 98503
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1 APPEARANCES
 2 COMMISSIONERS:
 3 DAVID DANNER, Chair
 4 ANN RENDAHL, Commissioner
 5 JAY BALASBAS, Commissioner
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1 LACEY, WASHINGTON; JANUARY 7, 2020
 2 6:00 P.M.
 3 --o0o--
 4 P R O C E E D I N G S
 5
 6 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Good evening. Today is
 7 January 7th, 2020, and this is a hearing of the
 8 Utilities and Transportation Commission.
 9 I'm Dave Danner. I'm Chair of the
 10 Commission. I'm joined by my colleagues, Commissioner
 11 Jay Balasbas and Commissioner Ann Rendahl. And this is
 12 the first of two public comment hearings in the Puget
 13 Sound Energy general rate case that was filed on
 14 June 20th, 2019, and these are Dockets UE-190529 and
 15 UG-190530.
 16 On June 20th, 2019, PSE filed with the
 17 Commission a request to raise rates that it charges for
 18 both electric and gas service. For the electric
 19 service, the Company proposed an increase of 139.9
 20 million, that would be an increase of 6.9 percent to its
 21 revenues. For the average customer, that would be a
 22 bill impact of \$5.51 a month. For gas, the Company is
 23 proposing an increase of 65 million or 7.5 percent. For
 24 the average customer, that would be an increase of \$2.45
 25 per month.

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1 General rate cases are basically like court
 2 trials. The Commissioners sit as judges in lengthy
 3 proceedings, and we hear testimony from the Company as
 4 well as from numerous formal parties to the proceeding,
 5 and those would be the UTC Staff, who operate
 6 independently of the Commissioners, the Public Counsel
 7 Office of the Attorney General, and the State's Public
 8 Counsel is here tonight, Lisa Gafken. So if anyone has
 9 questions about the case, Ms. Gafken is here to take
 10 your questions. And the Public Counsel office
 11 represents the interests of the residential customers
 12 and small business customers. We also have, as formal
 13 parties, large industrial customers, environmental
 14 groups, and advocates for low income citizens.
 15 By law, the proceedings that we have take up
 16 to 11 months, and they generally involve thousands of
 17 pages, data spreadsheets, and testimony. The purpose of
 18 the public hearing tonight is to hear from citizens
 19 about the proposed rate increases, what impacts they'll
 20 have on individual households and businesses, and what
 21 changes you think might be warranted regarding your
 22 electric or gas service. We take seriously what you
 23 have to say, and it does inform our consideration in
 24 this proceeding.
 25 Tonight, you will need to be sworn in before

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<p>1 you testify because this is part of a public proceeding</p> <p>2 of an adjudicatory proceeding. As I said, this is the</p> <p>3 first of two public proceedings that we're having to</p> <p>4 hear public comments. The next one will be January 22nd</p> <p>5 in Bellevue City Hall at 6:00 p.m., and then we begin</p> <p>6 our evidentiary hearing in the case with the formal</p> <p>7 parties on February 6th and 7th.</p> <p>8 So without further ado, what I intend to do,</p> <p>9 unless my colleagues have anything they would like to</p> <p>10 say tonight, I'm going to start at the beginning of the</p> <p>11 sign-in list in the order, and -- and we will take your</p> <p>12 testimony in order. To save time, I would like to ask</p> <p>13 that those who are on the bridge line or in the room,</p> <p>14 can we swear you in as a group as opposed to swearing</p> <p>15 you in individually. So if you intend to testify, could</p> <p>16 I ask you to please stand and raise your right hand.</p> <p>17 (All persons testifying sworn.)</p> <p>18 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Thank you very much. You</p> <p>19 may be seated.</p> <p>20 Okay. Let's start with Clayton Fleming, are</p> <p>21 you on the line?</p> <p>22 All right. Kirt Butler?</p> <p>23 MR. BUTLER: Yes, hi. Kirt Butler. I'm a</p> <p>24 resident in Kent, and based on the mailing that came out</p> <p>25 with the average percent change listed, it shows a 13.64</p>	<p>1 I don't see a rate increase as being needed.</p> <p>2 What I see being needed more likely is some improved</p> <p>3 management of costs at PSE.</p> <p>4 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you very</p> <p>5 much. Mr. Butler, I -- you had a number of questions.</p> <p>6 I want to make clear that this, tonight, the</p> <p>7 Commissioners don't take questions or answer questions.</p> <p>8 We -- we will take all questions as either rhetorical or</p> <p>9 we will refer them to parties who will get back to you</p> <p>10 then. And we have your information here I believe in</p> <p>11 the sign-up sheet, and -- and so in answer to your</p> <p>12 questions, I will ask the Public Counsel to -- to</p> <p>13 respond, and they'll -- they'll get back to you on</p> <p>14 questions that you have. But the overall gist of your</p> <p>15 testimony we have taken down and -- and we have got that</p> <p>16 recorded. So thank you very much.</p> <p>17 MR. BUTLER: Great. I appreciate that.</p> <p>18 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. Marion Thrasher,</p> <p>19 are you on the line?</p> <p>20 MS. THRASHER: Yes, I am.</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. Would you like to</p> <p>22 testify?</p> <p>23 MS. THRASHER: Yes, I would. I live in</p> <p>24 Renton, and I noticed again what the gentleman just</p> <p>25 stated, the increase is substantial, I -- and the</p>
Page 25	Page 27
<p>1 percent increase on average for the average household.</p> <p>2 That's pretty substantial. And then I look on the</p> <p>3 opposite side of this and there's entities that are</p> <p>4 getting quite a -- quite a nice reduction in rates. So</p> <p>5 that the -- I have a number of questions related to</p> <p>6 this.</p> <p>7 There have been extensive housing increases,</p> <p>8 meaning the number of homes built in Kent have increased</p> <p>9 quite a bit over the past year. I believe upwards of</p> <p>10 500-plus units have actually been added just around our</p> <p>11 neighborhood. With that -- with the -- the potential</p> <p>12 increase in -- in use of electricity by those who have</p> <p>13 gone to LED lighting -- and then with this decrease on</p> <p>14 it looks like from various special interests that have</p> <p>15 been proposed to have decreases for their rates, it</p> <p>16 doesn't make sense to me that Puget Sound Energy has to</p> <p>17 increase residential rates at all, because the</p> <p>18 population that they are receiving money from has</p> <p>19 increased exponentially over the past few years.</p> <p>20 I don't believe their costs to provide</p> <p>21 electrical power to those residents has increased</p> <p>22 exponentially. And, again, based on this mailing that</p> <p>23 came out, it shows an average increase really of 13.64</p> <p>24 percent for the general household if I understand the</p> <p>25 mailing correctly.</p>	<p>1 indicators as to why they're being increased are</p> <p>2 questionable.</p> <p>3 Number one, it appears that -- hold on just</p> <p>4 a moment, please. It appears that the issue that we're</p> <p>5 dealing with here is solar, which indicates that there's</p> <p>6 a loss of revenue there. It's not an area that should</p> <p>7 be a concern of mine or any customer or anybody who's</p> <p>8 being serviced by PSE. Technology as far as</p> <p>9 self-service tools to allow the customers better</p> <p>10 interaction, again, I'm not really sure that a survey</p> <p>11 was done with the customers to indicate that they truly</p> <p>12 do need that particular type of assistance.</p> <p>13 If those are the areas -- and, of course,</p> <p>14 the infrastructure of gas, but if they -- if those</p> <p>15 adjustments are based on those reasons, that's a</p> <p>16 significantly high percentage of increase, and I would</p> <p>17 strongly suggest as was spoke to you about certainly</p> <p>18 just recently, I think that you might want to talk about</p> <p>19 what's happening internally in term -- in terms of those</p> <p>20 who are monitoring the progress and -- and -- and</p> <p>21 success of PSE rather than putting an onus on the</p> <p>22 owners, homeowners. And those are my comments I would</p> <p>23 like to share with you today.</p> <p>24 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you very</p> <p>25 much, and thank you for participating tonight.</p>

<p>Page 28</p> <p>1 John Brutton, Brottem? Yes, come forward, 2 sir. 3 MR. BROTTM: Can I just speak through one 4 of these mics here? 5 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Yes. 6 And for those on the bridge line, we can 7 hear the clanking around, so if you can either mute your 8 phone or -- or just quiet down a bit, then we won't have 9 so much noise here. Appreciate it. 10 Go ahead. 11 MR. BROTTM: Yes, thank you. 12 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Is the green light on on 13 your microphone? 14 MR. BROTTM: No, this is red. There we go. 15 Okay. How's that? 16 CHAIRMAN DANNER: That's great. Speak in 17 the microphone would be great. 18 MR. BROTTM: Yes. Thank you very much for 19 the opportunity to address the UTC regarding concerns on 20 these requests for rate hikes. I am a 40-year resident 21 of the county, retired, and have been a client of PSE 22 during that period of time. My concerns about the rate 23 increase by mainly in the reason or reasons for that 24 rate increase that I could see on the mail-out sheet 25 where I saw this meeting posted, one of them is the need</p>	<p>Page 30</p> <p>1 equipment that wasn't kept up and maintained. 2 Now, I can support these increases when I 3 hear they're designed to improve the safety of the 4 system, which I think is really an important issue 5 that's overlooked, and it was in California too. I have 6 tried to make copies of these for the Commissioners, but 7 was unsuccessful today. 8 Anyway, the second reason that the request 9 was made was to enhance the investment of the private 10 equity owners in this private monopoly, which frankly, I 11 I don't have any interest in supporting. 12 And those are my reasons for not supporting 13 these rate increases. I don't think they address what I 14 think is really a very significant public and private 15 issue, which is maintenance of the equipment that they 16 use. And I don't think I need to say any more. 17 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you very 18 much. Did you say you have some written remarks or 19 written -- 20 MR. BROTTM: I have material with me that 21 I -- I tried to make these -- copies of these, but was 22 unsuccessful. These were publications. (As read) Here 23 are five fixes for PG&E. Safety experts say California 24 utility needs to seize opportunity to make big 25 changes --</p>
<p>Page 29</p> <p>1 to invest further in the technology -- and this is a 2 quote -- (as read) technology systems such as 3 self-service tools that allow customers to interact with 4 PSE at their convenience. 5 To me that looks like additional efforts to 6 eliminate the human element and the human interaction 7 with customers, which is what I've experienced anyway. 8 I've had two major episodes where I wanted to talk with 9 PSE and was unable to get anywhere on those efforts. 10 Those efforts really centered around damage sustained 11 due to outmoded equipment that should have been repaired 12 years before and also my concern regarding the public 13 health safety of the systems and the personal safety of 14 the individual homeowner. 15 And this was magnified in my -- from my own 16 point of view with recent publication in The Wall Street 17 Journal the 28th and 29th, Saturday -- Friday, Saturday 18 Wall Street Journal in December of 2019. And on Monday, 19 the -- I believe it was -- or Sunday, anyway, it was the 20 30th, another point, and these focused on the 21 healthcare -- or the safety issues that surfaced down in 22 California with PSE weren't strictly related to the 23 fires, but were related to the reasons that the fires 24 occurred aside from the forest densities and the 25 ripeness of the forest for forest fires, it was the</p>	<p>Page 31</p> <p>1 CHAIRMAN DANNER: And what is the date of 2 that and -- 3 MR. BROTTM: This -- this paper is December 4 30th, Monday -- 5 CHAIRMAN DANNER: And what's the newspaper? 6 MR. BROTTM: -- 2019. It's The Wall Street 7 Journal. 8 CHAIRMAN DANNER: The Wall Street Journal? 9 MR. BROTTM: And this is an extensive 10 article on PG&E, (as read) Wired to Fail. This is from 11 December 28th and 29th. 12 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. So the court 13 reporter has taken that information down, so we will be 14 able to access those copies, so thank you for citing 15 them. Thank you very much for being here. 16 Okay. I'd like to remind folks who are 17 listening in on the telephone again that we can hear you 18 talking, and it's getting a little noisy here. So if 19 you could please -- if you have mute on your phone to 20 mute the phone, otherwise just ask you to be as quiet as 21 you can, please. Thank you. 22 All right. Chris Stearns? Good evening. 23 MR. STEARNS: Good evening. Thanks for the 24 opportunity to address the board. I sit on a 25 three-person board, and I know some of the struggles</p>

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<p>1 that -- trying and work through things -- especially</p> <p>2 when you can't work with each other except in public</p> <p>3 meeting.</p> <p>4 So I am here today to comment on this rate</p> <p>5 structure that is being proposed and ask for some</p> <p>6 considerations. First of all, the return on equity is</p> <p>7 being changed from what I understand from 9.5 to 9.8.</p> <p>8 When the company was taken over in 2009 I believe it</p> <p>9 was, first year I served, it was given I think a 9</p> <p>10 percent rate of return.</p> <p>11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Speak up, please.</p> <p>12 MR. STEARNS: It was a given 9 percent</p> <p>13 return on equity at that time, so it's risen gradually.</p> <p>14 I don't know anybody whose stock portfolio gets more</p> <p>15 than 4 or 5 on the average. Of course maybe their</p> <p>16 stocks go up over time. You have to consider that part</p> <p>17 of it. But PSE is upper end, very high rate of return</p> <p>18 on equity in my mind. It is a regulated entity. You</p> <p>19 guys decide that, but I'm just giving you some input</p> <p>20 about, you know, even the private utilities out there</p> <p>21 that are shareholder-owned and the stock market don't do</p> <p>22 this.</p> <p>23 So one of the things that I see that PSE is</p> <p>24 lagging in is needs to focus more on its base charge for</p> <p>25 power. Fixed costs are often covered by utilities. I</p>	<p>1 get a lot of gas from Canada, which they have ownership</p> <p>2 shared with the Canadians. I don't know how you</p> <p>3 regulate that if they're paying themselves. Up in</p> <p>4 Canada, the gas line, the resource up in Canada is</p> <p>5 vertically integrated conglomerate. Good luck</p> <p>6 regulating it.</p> <p>7 But what I'm concerned about, I guess, that</p> <p>8 I'm concerned about is our future generation mix. They</p> <p>9 have contracts expiring in 2035 for public power, maybe</p> <p>10 off the PUD dams in Columbia, the separate mid Columbia</p> <p>11 dams. Other contracts are expiring, and they have no</p> <p>12 plans to -- they have nothing set to replace that</p> <p>13 generation. I don't know if they're going to get it off</p> <p>14 the spot market. I'm kind of wondering what they're</p> <p>15 doing.</p> <p>16 So this is only 15 years from now, and I'm</p> <p>17 surprised that the utility's planning on its generation.</p> <p>18 Of course, the market changes as we all know, and a lot</p> <p>19 of things are influx, but there's no definitive -- for</p> <p>20 the largest utility in the state, there's no definitive</p> <p>21 place where this electricity is going to come from in 15</p> <p>22 years, and I'm concerned about that as a customer.</p> <p>23 My utility depends on their power. When</p> <p>24 somebody cracks up a line nearby and then they don't pay</p> <p>25 for the damages because they claim it's a right of --</p>
Page 33	Page 35
<p>1 know because I attend public community meetings. More</p> <p>2 and more by base charges because fixed costs don't go</p> <p>3 away. If you have a vacation home, you still have to</p> <p>4 have that power delivered there even if you're not</p> <p>5 there. And there are a growth of those kinds of things.</p> <p>6 I know in my utility there are. I run a water utility,</p> <p>7 but I know that that's what exists. And sometimes</p> <p>8 they're not really paying adequately to cover the costs</p> <p>9 of maintaining service.</p> <p>10 And I think PSE's maintaining of service is</p> <p>11 somewhat remiss because we often see people coming in</p> <p>12 from Missouri, California to fix the utility over the</p> <p>13 phone, they don't know the system, and this really</p> <p>14 concerns the citizens of our county or in the further</p> <p>15 part of their area. We're not as close to Renton where</p> <p>16 most of their workers are located.</p> <p>17 They do have Potelco down here, but I mean,</p> <p>18 their own employees aren't here in an emergency. Often</p> <p>19 they are not able to come because of the snow, sleet,</p> <p>20 whatever ice storm situation. And most recently, I</p> <p>21 think it was in 2012 was that situation in Thurston</p> <p>22 County. I think you remember that time.</p> <p>23 And, you know, I'm concerned about where</p> <p>24 PSE's future generation is going to come from. They're</p> <p>25 purporting to be the largest utility. Certainly they</p>	<p>1 you know, act of God or something like that, they're not</p> <p>2 acting responsibility -- responsibly to other people</p> <p>3 that provide vital services like water to the</p> <p>4 communities around here, and I think people are figuring</p> <p>5 it out. Thank you.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you very</p> <p>7 much. Thank you for coming out tonight.</p> <p>8 Lynn Larsen, not wishing to testify; is that</p> <p>9 correct?</p> <p>10 MR. LARSEN: No.</p> <p>11 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. Stephon Shelley?</p> <p>12 MR. SHELLEY: Yeah.</p> <p>13 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Come forward, sir.</p> <p>14 MR. SHELLEY: Yeah, I'm Stephon Shelly, and</p> <p>15 my wife and I live in the Yelm area, and we're under the</p> <p>16 Puget Sound Energy, and we've not been very happy with</p> <p>17 them. We're on a fixed budget, a low income -- low</p> <p>18 income fixed budget, and, you know, we heat with wood,</p> <p>19 we cook and dry clothes and -- and our water heater's</p> <p>20 all propane so that we're not using any of that</p> <p>21 electric. All of our lights are all LED. We do use</p> <p>22 electric to -- refrigerator and we have a well pump and</p> <p>23 a small freezer. But that doesn't constitute the amount</p> <p>24 of electricity that they say we're using.</p> <p>25 And we have confronted them about these</p>

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<p>1 issues, and they've only covered the basis legally so</p> <p>2 that they can get away with what they're getting away</p> <p>3 with. But there's no way we're using the kind of</p> <p>4 electricity, spending 3- and \$400 a month for -- for</p> <p>5 electricity that should not be. A lot of the guessing</p> <p>6 that they were doing for quite a few months was really</p> <p>7 out of line.</p> <p>8 They -- they have just recently gone through</p> <p>9 a rate increase, and they have no business asking for</p> <p>10 another rate increase. If anything at all, they should</p> <p>11 be lowering their rates as they're already the most</p> <p>12 expensive power company or supplier in the state of</p> <p>13 Washington. And they -- our electricity hasn't been</p> <p>14 resolved and the issues have not been resolved even</p> <p>15 though we have complained to the Commission and we have</p> <p>16 complained to the -- the Puget Sound Energy, but they</p> <p>17 have not -- they have not properly answered the -- the</p> <p>18 issues that we're having with our -- with our</p> <p>19 electricity usage, which I know we're not using.</p> <p>20 So I don't know what all is going on or why,</p> <p>21 but I'd like to get to the bottom of it, and I don't</p> <p>22 know who else to go to to ask about that either.</p> <p>23 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. So -- so let me</p> <p>24 ask. You have -- you have talked to our consumer staff?</p> <p>25 MR. SHELLEY: Yes, I have.</p>	<p>1 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. And thank you for</p> <p>2 coming out tonight.</p> <p>3 Okay. Jane Doe? So, Ms. Doe, I have to</p> <p>4 ask, because this is an adjudicatory proceeding, if that</p> <p>5 is an alias source of a name, we're going to ask --</p> <p>6 we're going to need to have your -- your name.</p> <p>7 MS. SHAW: I prefer not to give it.</p> <p>8 CHAIRMAN DANNER: I don't have a counsel</p> <p>9 here -- or, Mr. Fukano?</p> <p>10 MR. FUKANO: I believe for record purposes,</p> <p>11 you would need to give your name.</p> <p>12 MS. SHAW: Okay. The last name is Shaw.</p> <p>13 CHAIRMAN DANNER: And your first name?</p> <p>14 MS. SHAW: I -- the first initial is D, and</p> <p>15 that is all that I am willing to provide.</p> <p>16 CHAIRMAN DANNER: And you are a customer of</p> <p>17 Puget Sound Energy?</p> <p>18 MS. SHAW: Yes.</p> <p>19 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right.</p> <p>20 MS. SHAW: Okay. I have several issues.</p> <p>21 The investments and technology systems, I don't know too</p> <p>22 many agencies that require the customers to take care of</p> <p>23 that. I believe that should be taken care of out of</p> <p>24 their earnings, out of their revenue that they -- that</p> <p>25 they gain. The -- the brochure that we received said</p>
Page 37	Page 39
<p>1 CHAIRMAN DANNER: And how recently was this?</p> <p>2 MR. SHELLEY: This has been going on for the</p> <p>3 last several months, probably six months or -- or more</p> <p>4 that we've been working with you guys as well as with</p> <p>5 the Puget Sound Energy. And we have had them come out</p> <p>6 and they did replace a meter that they said wasn't</p> <p>7 properly transmitting, so they were not able to get the</p> <p>8 readings off of that that they thought they should be</p> <p>9 getting.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. Well, we too will</p> <p>11 want to get to the bottom of this. It sounds like if</p> <p>12 it's -- if it's more recent, that might -- that</p> <p>13 investigation might still be open. Ms. Feeser is in the</p> <p>14 back. I'm going to ask you to give your information to</p> <p>15 her so she can follow up directly, and then I will ask</p> <p>16 her what's going on and we'll keep tabs on this. But we</p> <p>17 want to get to the bottom of it too. If you're getting</p> <p>18 billed improperly, that's very serious to us.</p> <p>19 MR. SHELLEY: Absolutely believe that we</p> <p>20 are. It should not be this expensive.</p> <p>21 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. We will look</p> <p>22 into this. We will -- I believe that my staff is</p> <p>23 already looking into this. We will -- we will follow</p> <p>24 up.</p> <p>25 MR. SHELLEY: All right. Thank you.</p>	<p>1 that the customers pay for these returns in order to</p> <p>2 service debt expenses and provide the opportunity for</p> <p>3 shareholders to earn a fair return on their investment.</p> <p>4 You know, I think PSE has had so many rate</p> <p>5 increases in the last few years that nobody's cost of</p> <p>6 living increase can even possibly come close to what PSE</p> <p>7 requests each time they request a rate increase. I'm a</p> <p>8 senior citizen. I try so hard to keep my electric bill</p> <p>9 down. I keep my temperature down to 59 degrees, I have</p> <p>10 had pneumonia four times just trying to keep it -- keep</p> <p>11 the electric bill down. I don't even use all the lights</p> <p>12 in my house. I don't turn on my porch light. I bake</p> <p>13 once a week on Sunday so all I have to do is microwave</p> <p>14 things throughout the week.</p> <p>15 I try so hard to get my -- my electric bill</p> <p>16 down, but it seems like each year the increase that PSE</p> <p>17 is granted, the rates go up even though I'm using less</p> <p>18 electricity. I'm trying so hard to go down, down, down</p> <p>19 and the rates are going up, up, up. So there's no way I</p> <p>20 can ever even come out ahead on this game.</p> <p>21 I think to provide the opportunity for</p> <p>22 shareholders to earn a fair return on their investment</p> <p>23 is just not right. I don't know how many Puget Sound</p> <p>24 Energy customers -- whoops -- are aware that a portion</p> <p>25 of their bill each month, whether they want it to or</p>

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<p>1 not, goes to the Warm Fund to ensure that Puget Sound 2 Energy will receive the payment for their -- for their 3 charges from low income people. There is an area on the 4 bill where you can check if you wish to contribute, but 5 the portion that is automatically charged each customer, 6 they have \$8 million available for use. 7 I tried to access some of that money for my 8 elderly mother a while back, but the amount of money 9 that you have to earn in order to be eligible to access 10 assistance from that fund is so low that you would 11 practically have to be homeless to do that, to get 12 any -- any assistance. But they brag that they have so 13 much money available to assist people with, but it's 14 only at their discretion if you're practically homeless 15 that -- that you need assistance. 16 So I -- I take issue with trying to conserve 17 my energy usage when the woman on welfare up the street 18 who has five kids has her windows hanging open, the 19 lights are on all the time, and yet she gets assistance. 20 And I'm sitting at home freezing, spending most of my 21 time in my bedroom in bed to stay warm with no lights 22 on, I have the battery-operated candles to try to 23 conserve. To try to get assistance to weatherize my 24 house, oh, yeah, you're going to pay for it. It's not 25 really assistance. They're just going to work out a</p>	<p>1 energy efficient. We're not seeing any return in that 2 purchase because the rates are being increased. 3 I just think it's a shame that we live in 4 Washington and we're giving our -- or selling our energy 5 to other states. They're increasing the rates just 6 about every year. Almost 8 percent yearly. I don't 7 know anyone's checks who are -- that are able to keep up 8 with that. My cost of living isn't that much. People 9 who are low income, how do they even stand a chance? 10 They make just barely above what PSE determines is 11 acceptable for receiving assistance on their energy 12 bill. Look at the homeless people. I mean, how do they 13 have a chance even if they had a house? They wouldn't 14 be able to afford their electric bill. 15 PSE is contributing to a problem. Oh, and 16 the flyer back here says, (as read) The company must 17 prove to the Commission that it requires additional 18 revenue to provide safe and reliable service. 19 I don't think it's safe and reliable service 20 when they're asking for -- to provide the opportunity 21 for shareholders to earn a fair return on their 22 investment. I'd like to make a fair return on my 23 investment also, but PSE takes care of that. I try to 24 cut back so that I don't have to give as much money to 25 PSE. I'd like to be able to buy a nice meal once in a</p>
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<p>1 plan that you can pay each month for them to come out 2 and weatherize your house. 3 So, people, make sure that you know that 4 you're helping to pay for other people's not being able 5 to pay their bill. I really take issue with that. 6 Most appliances that we purchase these days 7 are the energy conserving appliances, and it seems to me 8 that we're being penalized for trying to conserve on 9 energy. Increasing the levels of residential solar 10 battery storage and electric vehicles. I had read 11 something about PSE here not too long ago that because 12 they weren't making as much money as they were used to 13 making because everybody is trying to conserve energy 14 and use the energy efficient appliances, that they had 15 to increase rates to make up for that revenue. Not 16 right. Not right. 17 I mean, the public -- we don't have an 18 opportunity to even come out ahead again. That's just 19 not fair. And I know it's not a matter of fairness, but 20 PSE just -- they do whatever they want to do. I think 21 we're still selling our energy to other states. 22 Shouldn't we be taking care of our state, the residents 23 in our state? We don't have the option of buying an 24 appliance that's not smart -- or an energy efficient 25 appliance, so we're buying the appliances that are</p>	<p>1 while, go out for a dinner. I can't do that because my 2 bill from PSE goes up even though my energy use -- usage 3 goes down. 4 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you very 5 much for coming out tonight. 6 Jenny Hitch? 7 MS. HITCH: I have a question, but it sounds 8 like you're not taking questions so... 9 CHAIRMAN DANNER: No, so I would refer you 10 to Public Counsel. 11 MS. HITCH: Okay. 12 CHAIRMAN DANNER: So, Ed, on the line, I 13 don't think we ever got your last name, but are you 14 there? 15 MR. ROBERTS: They're muted right now. 16 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. 17 MR. ROBERTS: And it looks like Ed is gone. 18 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. How about -- trying 19 to read this, Kirt Butler? Kirt, okay. 20 And Nathaniel Tillman? 21 MR. BUTLER: Yeah, hi, it's Kirt. I spoke 22 earlier. 23 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Yes, thank you. You're 24 down here twice, but, yeah, we got you. Thank you very 25 much.</p>

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<p>1 MR. BUTLER: All right.</p> <p>2 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Mr. Tillman? All right.</p> <p>3 Moving on.</p> <p>4 MR. TILLMAN: Yeah, sorry about that. I was</p> <p>5 on mute.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. Great, go ahead,</p> <p>7 sir.</p> <p>8 MR. TILLMAN: Yeah, I just kind of wanted</p> <p>9 to, I guess, piggyback on some of the things that have</p> <p>10 already been said here tonight, mainly being the Puget</p> <p>11 Sound Energy seeking a rate increase to essentially</p> <p>12 reward their shareholders. For working families and</p> <p>13 people, everyone else who is out here just trying to</p> <p>14 take care of their bills, I just see that as simply</p> <p>15 egregious, a slap in the face on being a customer of</p> <p>16 Puget Sound Energy. So I'm not going to be long-winded</p> <p>17 tonight, but I just wanted to add that to the record.</p> <p>18 Thank you.</p> <p>19 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you very</p> <p>20 much, and thank you for calling in tonight.</p> <p>21 All right. Bruce Wilkinson?</p> <p>22 MR. WILKINSON: Sorry for my appearance.</p> <p>23 I'm a -- just got off work and digging in the mud all</p> <p>24 day, and --</p> <p>25 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Quite a day for being</p>	<p>1 the price is. You know, if they got rid of -- they're</p> <p>2 asking for an increase in the rate of return -- return</p> <p>3 on equity of the shareholder investments from 9.5</p> <p>4 percent to 9.8 percent. Well, they just shut down our</p> <p>5 local billing station. You know, and that's where I pay</p> <p>6 my bills. You know, I hate to say it, but it's like</p> <p>7 I'm -- I'm -- gotta wrangle up the -- the share of the</p> <p>8 bills from three other people who don't have, you know,</p> <p>9 much money and some people get paid in tips, you know,</p> <p>10 and so they're paying me with cash, and I'm running it</p> <p>11 down there. You know, I used to just run it down there,</p> <p>12 you know, every month and now I have to figure out how</p> <p>13 to -- how to go to the bank, put it in there, make sure</p> <p>14 I have the money, it's going to clear. And -- and it</p> <p>15 makes -- it makes it just that much more difficult for</p> <p>16 me to manage all of that sort of stuff.</p> <p>17 I'm not -- I'm not the -- you know, I know</p> <p>18 some people who have all their bills ready and just</p> <p>19 automatically deducts and that's all fine and dandy,</p> <p>20 but, you know, that's not how it is for people who don't</p> <p>21 have a lot. And I don't understand why they have --</p> <p>22 they get a rate of return that's so high in general.</p> <p>23 I mean, you know, I -- I guess -- you know,</p> <p>24 what's the rate of return on a savings account? It's</p> <p>25 like, what, .2, .3 percent? You know, I think an</p>
<p>1 outside.</p> <p>2 MR. WILKINSON: Right, yeah. And so --</p> <p>3 yeah, I -- I have a few concerns. I -- I am working --</p> <p>4 just to be up front, I am working on -- as a volunteer</p> <p>5 for a campaign to -- to make a public power -- Thurston</p> <p>6 County -- public power PUD in Thurston County. And</p> <p>7 so -- and there's reasons for that.</p> <p>8 You know, I -- just to -- you know, just</p> <p>9 listening to other people's -- other people's, you know,</p> <p>10 concerns about their bills and stuff like that, my</p> <p>11 bill -- you know, my last bill said that I'm -- have a</p> <p>12 25 percent increase of energy use over like this time</p> <p>13 last year. And I'm like how could that -- how could</p> <p>14 that be possible? I mean, I live in a community house,</p> <p>15 I have like three other roommates, but, you know, we are</p> <p>16 just trying to -- we all just scrape by, you know what I</p> <p>17 mean?</p> <p>18 It's not that easy out there. There's</p> <p>19 not -- there's not much help, you know. It's a rental,</p> <p>20 you can't get -- get any -- any of these deals of</p> <p>21 getting the -- you know, it's a cheap rental, so it</p> <p>22 doesn't have insulation very much. And we have</p> <p>23 baseboard heating, but we're not even -- you know, we</p> <p>24 don't turn it on.</p> <p>25 So it's a -- it's amazing how much the --</p>	<p>1 electric monopoly, it's privately owned should be able</p> <p>2 to -- you know, it should be like this -- the return on</p> <p>3 a savings account or a return on a long-term bond, you</p> <p>4 know. What's the rate of return on a long-term bond</p> <p>5 that -- you know. It should be like the sort of thing</p> <p>6 that -- that -- I think there -- the people -- the</p> <p>7 shareholders, the people who own the Puget Sound</p> <p>8 Holdings, you know, are they going to throw their -- you</p> <p>9 know, their shares in the trash because they're making,</p> <p>10 you know, half a percent?</p> <p>11 I mean, and there's been times in recent</p> <p>12 years when people have -- people bought negative returns</p> <p>13 on bonds, you know, negative percentage rating on --</p> <p>14 because it was a -- it was a safe investment, you know.</p> <p>15 So I -- you know, I think we could bring it down</p> <p>16 drastically. I did notice that the Public Counsel says</p> <p>17 that they want to reduce the rate from 9.5 to 8.85</p> <p>18 percent, and they've also recommended the rate decrease</p> <p>19 of \$36 million, which, you know, I am glad to hear that.</p> <p>20 I think it can go much lower, though.</p> <p>21 That's a -- one of the reasons I think that</p> <p>22 is because I was part of the public power campaign in</p> <p>23 Thurston County 2012. There were public power campaigns</p> <p>24 in 2008 in three counties. You know, they spent, you</p> <p>25 know, according to the PDC about almost a million</p>

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<p>1 dollars in 2008 defeating those -- those three. They 2 were -- they spent six hundred -- around \$650,000 3 according to the PDC of our -- of our money on trying to 4 defeat it in 2012. It was the most ever spent on a 5 countywide election by -- you know, about -- I think the 6 most spent before that was a hundred thousand dollars 7 for a commissions race.</p> <p>8 So it was -- it was a huge amount, and you 9 know what the PDC doesn't count was PSE's 10 self-promotion. At every -- every event in -- in 11 Thurston County for the -- for the entire spring and 12 summer, Puget Sound Energy had to stand there just 13 talking about how great it was, how green it was, how 14 corporate, how responsible it was. That doesn't get 15 measured in the PDC reports, right, because they're 16 just, you know, hey, we have to promote ourselves, we're 17 a business that doesn't have any competitors, but for 18 some reason they have to do ads saying how great and 19 green and wonderful they are and responsible.</p> <p>20 Well, I don't buy it. And if they've got 21 enough money to throw at things like that, then they 22 should get rate decreases. They should get -- their -- 23 their profits are too high. I -- you know, if they're 24 giving away things like this -- election year, this is 25 just a Puget Sound Energy little light, flashy light,</p>	<p>1 to make PSE actually something that -- that like at the 2 end of the day, I wouldn't try and, you know, run 3 against -- and that's by bringing their -- their -- 4 their profit rate to -- to Canada. It's not like before 5 in 2008 where it's, okay, paying shareholders a lot that 6 live in Washington or at least the United States. But 7 now they're all in Canada or Europe. You can't even 8 figure it out, where they're -- who owns them anymore. 9 It's so hard to track it all down. It's like, you know, 10 house of cards trying to figure it out.</p> <p>11 And so none of it comes back to us. It's 12 like why do we -- why do we allow them to send any of 13 that away? You know, it just didn't make any sense to 14 me. And I feel like, you know, if you brought it down, 15 if you were like to -- right now, we're at the end of 16 this case, we've decided we're going to bring your rate 17 of return to zero, to zero or .1 or .2 or whatever the 18 savings account is, what's going to happen? They're 19 going to be like, that's unfair. We can't buy out the 20 legislators in the state anymore, you know. We can't 21 give away -- you know, we can't greenwash our image 22 rather than invest in -- in -- in -- in actual green 23 energy.</p> <p>24 You know, they spend so much money just 25 telling us that they're green and responsible with</p>
<p>Page 49</p> <p>1 you know, they just toss these away at every little 2 event in town. They're just already starting doing that 3 right now. Last time they gave away little shower heads 4 and light bulbs for free. They haven't done -- they 5 haven't done it since then, they just happened to do it 6 the year we were running a campaign against them to 7 bring in public.</p> <p>8 So, you know, if they've got money to burn 9 on stuff like that, then that's -- that's -- you're 10 all -- you all should be investigating that. And you 11 should calculate is this where -- where ratepayers' 12 money should go? And I don't think it is.</p> <p>13 And, you know, another thing is how many -- 14 how many legislators do they give money to in their 15 campaign fund? I mean, I've heard in the 22nd District 16 as soon as you become a -- you get elected or something 17 like that, you just automatically get like 500 -- \$500 18 from PSE. You know, it's like welcome to being a public 19 official, here's \$500 from PSE for your next campaign.</p> <p>20 I mean, I've heard -- other people have said 21 that they have given money to over 600, 600 people's 22 political campaigns. I mean, that's -- that's a lot 23 of -- that's a lot of money to spend, and what's it 24 being spent on, you know, and where do they get that 25 money? And if we want to ever have PSE -- there's a way</p>	<p>Page 51</p> <p>1 advertising campaigns. It's very expensive ones. And, 2 you know, you brought it down to zero, they wouldn't be 3 able to do that. Public utility districts, they don't 4 do that. They're not out there every day saying -- with 5 billboards saying how wonderful they are. They're not 6 trying to pretend to sell themselves to us.</p> <p>7 So anyway, I just -- just think we need 8 to -- to -- to treat them more hostile and -- than we 9 currently are.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you very 11 much.</p> <p>12 Okay. We have a number of people still 13 wishing to speak. At this point, we swore in folks to 14 speak who had arrived early, but I think now we're at 15 the point where we've had a number of late arrivals who 16 did not -- we did not swear in to testify. So if you're 17 intending to swear -- you're intending to speak to us 18 tonight but you have not raised your right hand, I would 19 ask you to stand and raise your right hand now so that 20 we can swear you in.</p> <p>21 (All persons testifying sworn.) 22 Thank you very much. 23 So Laura Slagger? 24 MS. SCHLEYER: Schleyer, it's really hard to 25 say.</p>

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<p>1 CHAIRMAN DANNER: How is it?</p> <p>2 MS. SCHLEYER: Schleyer.</p> <p>3 CHAIRMAN DANNER: That's a Y, not a G, then.</p> <p>4 MS. SCHLEYER: Don't worry. The rare person</p> <p>5 gets a prize if they say it right.</p> <p>6 CHAIRMAN DANNER: I'm sorry. Often it's a</p> <p>7 matter of me trying to read.</p> <p>8 MS. SCHLEYER: Thank you. I am a customer</p> <p>9 of PSE. I happen to live close to the office, but the</p> <p>10 old office. Anyway, my concern is that PSE currently</p> <p>11 already has some of the highest rates in the state, and</p> <p>12 I'm -- really don't feel at all that they have some of</p> <p>13 highest service in the state currently. So I don't feel</p> <p>14 very generous towards wanting to pay more on my bill.</p> <p>15 The things that -- that I have noted is that</p> <p>16 the PUDs are -- get power back up much faster than PSE</p> <p>17 does, and I have heard and I -- I believe this to be</p> <p>18 true that the PUDs have not bottom-lined their staff,</p> <p>19 and so their staff knows their area and can get around</p> <p>20 to the problem areas where the power lines are down much</p> <p>21 faster; whereas the PSE bottom-line their staff, they</p> <p>22 contract to get power back up. And sometimes the</p> <p>23 contractors are from far away and they're sitting around</p> <p>24 with their GPS, Google thing trying to find where the</p> <p>25 heck it is.</p>	<p>1 raised bed, which, yeah, I didn't usually need to do</p> <p>2 that, but I mean, I could practically touch the line.</p> <p>3 And then the way the -- our street is,</p> <p>4 the -- some of the people on the east side of the street</p> <p>5 have kind of a raised property just in order to level</p> <p>6 it, and there's an -- an elder woman who lives across</p> <p>7 the street. And her -- the way the line comes straight</p> <p>8 across, her property comes up, and so her line is even</p> <p>9 closer to the ground, and that just concerns me for her</p> <p>10 sake.</p> <p>11 So the -- the other thing that doesn't make</p> <p>12 me feel very comfortable about the service from PSE is</p> <p>13 that we had an ice storm, and these lines were</p> <p>14 already -- some of them were already exactly as I've</p> <p>15 described, and at -- they restrung it exactly the same</p> <p>16 way. And it seemed to me that since the power lines</p> <p>17 were down, they had every opportunity to rectify where</p> <p>18 those were placed. And so that -- I didn't appreciate</p> <p>19 that.</p> <p>20 I -- these lines that go across my property,</p> <p>21 other service providers -- you know, we have that --</p> <p>22 the -- the public service utility six feet from the</p> <p>23 street over to where the sidewalk and your property</p> <p>24 technically begins. That's where PSE should be having</p> <p>25 their utility lines run. And Comcast and some of the</p>
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<p>1 And Olympia has a really squirrely layout</p> <p>2 where one street will stop at a park and then you don't</p> <p>3 know exactly how to get around to get to the part of</p> <p>4 that street. And I've lived here 44 years and it's</p> <p>5 really hard. So I -- I think that that doesn't really</p> <p>6 make me feel like they deserve to get a higher rate when</p> <p>7 their service is not very good on that.</p> <p>8 I had a personal experience at my house that</p> <p>9 I was building where before I built my house, I -- I was</p> <p>10 very concerned because the power line -- I had -- well,</p> <p>11 there's one typically where I live in northeast Olympia</p> <p>12 eastside, the -- there's usually just one power pole per</p> <p>13 block. And then so it's the lines string out, string</p> <p>14 across streets and all kinds of ways. And, you know,</p> <p>15 that is what it is. I'm not wishing there was more</p> <p>16 power poles. They're not particularly nice to look at.</p> <p>17 But what it meant in my case was that the</p> <p>18 lines strung right across the middle of my -- my</p> <p>19 property where I wanted to build. And actually not just</p> <p>20 one, but three, because it just happened to be the way</p> <p>21 they -- oops, excuse me -- strung to this neighbor, that</p> <p>22 neighbor and this neighbor. And that happened -- I</p> <p>23 mean, it was like that and it was less than the 12-foot</p> <p>24 minimum from the ground. So when I -- I could</p> <p>25 practically touch the lines, and if I stood up on my</p>	<p>1 other service providers do exactly that, they run right</p> <p>2 along the street, you know, parallel, and then when they</p> <p>3 need to cut in, they cut in in a perpendicular way</p> <p>4 instead of stringing across people's property. And</p> <p>5 Comcast calls it aerial trespass when they go across a</p> <p>6 property like that.</p> <p>7 So I'm not sure why PSE feels that it was</p> <p>8 within their right to charge me to move all three of</p> <p>9 those lines for my neighbors before I could build my</p> <p>10 house. I also had to pay for the intermediate pole,</p> <p>11 which they chose the design of. I thought they should</p> <p>12 at least -- if I'm going to pay for it, I would like to</p> <p>13 vote or something, you know, to like do it the right</p> <p>14 way, just perpendicularise [sic] it rather than string</p> <p>15 it yet again at a diagonal across my property. I'd</p> <p>16 rather just not have it across my property at all.</p> <p>17 And so all of those things, I mean, that was</p> <p>18 really expensive. It cost me \$8,000 for the</p> <p>19 intermediate pole and the restringing. And so, you</p> <p>20 know, I -- that doesn't feel right to me, to give more</p> <p>21 money to a service provider that is not doing a better</p> <p>22 job than -- than other service providers like PUDs. So</p> <p>23 yeah, thank you.</p> <p>24 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you very</p> <p>25 much.</p>

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<p>1 And, William Kupinski? Did I get that 2 right? 3 MR. KUPINSKI: William Kupinski, yes. 4 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. 5 MR. KUPINSKI: My name is William Kupinski, 6 and I am resident of Tacoma. I'm a PSE ratepayer as 7 well. 8 COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: I'm sorry, could you 9 turn on your microphone? 10 MR. KUPINSKI: Oh, yeah, I'm sorry. Is it 11 not on? 12 COMMISSIONER RENDAHL: Just press until it 13 turns green. There you go. 14 MR. KUPINSKI: How are we now, better? 15 Thank you. My name is William Kupinski, and I live in 16 Tacoma. I am a resident there, and I also am a PSE 17 ratepayer. And I'm -- I'm here to speak against the 18 request that PSE has made for a rate increase. And I 19 want to speak more generally about the greater economic 20 and environmental landscape under which this request is 21 being made. 22 This is the second time that I have 23 testified before you all. When I was here last time, it 24 was in 2016, I believe, and Puget Sound Energy was 25 asking for a waiver of the ring-fencing requirement so</p>	<p>1 approving residential customers paying \$133 million, 2 which is a tremendous amount of a project that they're 3 going to see very little for. 4 If you do the actual math and the peak 5 shaving would only go for ten years, what you would 6 actually get, assuming that the peak shaving is even 7 necessary, there's plenty of reason to believe that it's 8 not. They have lots of gas for new commercial projects. 9 But even if that were necessary, what that would work 10 out to be for those ten years for the 2 percent would be 11 about \$1.5 million, not 133 million. 12 So if you go ahead and approve this rate 13 increase, which you will be asked to do soon, and I'll 14 be back here again, and now I know where your new 15 facility is so I will have an easier time getting here. 16 So they're going to be asking for that as well from -- 17 from all of their ratepayers. 18 What concerns me is my first encounter with 19 the UTC, you were the only thing standing between the -- 20 the exploited behavior of a monopoly that -- that sells 21 something that people need, right? They need to -- to 22 heat their homes, although hopefully we'll not be 23 heating with fossil fuels for very much longer. We 24 can't afford to do that because of the climate crisis. 25 But you're the only thing that's standing between us and</p>
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<p>1 that they could not just be a public utility, but they 2 could enter the private for-profit LNG market. Not that 3 they're not making enough profit already apparently. 4 And your counsel I believe recommended against that, the 5 Public Counsel, and yet that waiver was granted. And I 6 now live near an eight-million gallon LNG fracked gas 7 refinery and storage tank that is built on unsteady soil 8 in a residential area very close to residential areas on 9 the traditional lands of the Puyallup Tribe and near an 10 ICE facility. 11 So today we're here to talk about the fact 12 that Puget Sound Energy wants another rate increase. I 13 believe they just got a 14.2 percent increase for gas 14 this past November, and now they're asking for more. 15 And your -- Public -- the Public Counsel is once again 16 making a recommendation. This recommendation is that 17 electric rates go down and that there be a much more 18 modest increase in the -- in the gas rates. 19 Now, I know this is looking a bit ahead that 20 Puget Sound Energy will very soon be asking you to 21 permit them to pass along the cost of this LNG facility 22 that's built in Tacoma. 43 percent of a \$310 million 23 facility that will provide at most 2 percent of peak 24 shaving to residential customers, yet the residential 25 customers you've indicated your initial likelihood of</p>	<p>1 the worst abuses of a monopoly. 2 And based upon my experience with you in 3 2016, I am not all that encouraged. I think that what 4 we get here often is the appearance of justice without 5 actual justice. We have sort of filling out the forms 6 in very much the same way that PSE makes itself look 7 like it is a responsible corporation when, in fact, it 8 is anything but that. 9 The international [sic] Panel on Climate 10 Change issued a report that we have 12 years to avert 11 the absolute worst case scenarios from climate change. 12 We need to be building no new fossil fuel 13 infrastructure. We need to be retiring it now, and all 14 of the financial calculations should be going towards 15 how do we make that transition and how do we build it 16 down. 17 So when PSE asks for money for natural gas, 18 I would say -- I would deny every rate increase 19 that's -- moving in that direction that is not directly 20 moving us toward zero carbon energy sources in the 21 future. I really ask you to look at the bigger picture. 22 I think the best thing in the world that would happen 23 would be for Puget Sound Energy to get out of the 24 Washington energy business, for us to have public, truly 25 public nonprofit utility companies that -- the ones that</p>

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<p>1 there are already have a much better record of using 2 renewables, they have much lower rates, and they have 3 better service. And that's where we need to be going. 4 So you're regulators, regulate. This is 5 your chance to do something important. This is 6 something to do -- chance to do something your 7 grandchildren will remember you for. This is a chance 8 to do something that matters. Thank you. 9 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. Thank you very 10 much. 11 Barb Churdy? 12 MS. CHURCH: Church. 13 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Church, all right. Good 14 evening. Thanks for coming. 15 MS. CHURCH: Thank you for letting me speak. 16 My name is Barb Church -- this is on, right? And I am a 17 resident of Tacoma. The previous speaker said a lot of 18 what I am going to say, but I wanted to respond to what 19 I have heard too, and I hear people saying things about 20 the poor service that they received and -- and how 21 expensive the service is and how a lot of the money goes 22 to Canada that's running for office. 23 I know I am from Tacoma and our mayor got 24 thousands and thousands and thousands of dollars from 25 Puget Sound Energy. I know that when I turn on the</p>	<p>1 profitable for Puget Sound Energy. 2 And I'll just repeat this because I think 3 it's really worth repeating, and I really think that 4 people need to know and they don't know that -- that 5 this 133 million of the total 310 million of this 6 project, it would give Puget Sound Energy a return on 7 investment of 43 percent. Now, this 133 million is what 8 our ratepayers are paying when they're only, in fact, 9 ultimately going to be using 2 percent in ten years. So 10 I'm just sharing this information and hoping that you 11 will deny any rate increase. Thank you. 12 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you. 13 Stacy Oaks? 14 MS. OAKS: Hello. Hi, my name is Stacy 15 Oaks. I'm an organizer with 350 Seattle, and just want 16 to say thank you for having us here today and good to be 17 here today with you on the land of the Coast Salish 18 people. 19 I want to -- I want to say that I agree with 20 a lot of the sentiments that have already been said 21 here, so there's a lot of points that I don't feel like 22 I need to -- to speak on too deeply, but I want to echo 23 the -- echo a lot of the thoughts around what's been 24 shared on some of the things PSE's been spending their 25 money on and how it must feel to people scraping by to</p>
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<p>1 television I see advertising -- I could see it daily 2 only I realize that they were advertising -- Puget Sound 3 Energy was advertising about liquified natural gas and 4 how much cheaper it's going to be and how much cleaner 5 it's going to be. I listen to it every day. I just -- 6 I just don't listen to that channel anymore because I'm 7 just so tired of hearing it. 8 Puget Sound Energy donates to -- they will 9 donate to everybody. They donate to our chamber, they 10 donate to our Urban League, they donate everywhere. So 11 if you wonder where Puget Sound Energy is spending their 12 money, they're spending it in places where they can have 13 political clout. 14 What I -- I do think it's valuable, though, 15 to repeat especially to the ratepayers and the 16 ratepayers here wondering where Puget Sound Energy is 17 spending their money and to also address one of the main 18 drivers is on capital investments. And we have an LNG 19 plant in the city of Tacoma that, as Bill said, is going 20 to be costing the ratepayers an estimated \$133 million 21 and -- of the \$310 million cost of just building this -- 22 this facility when, you know, they're -- they're only 23 going to be -- well, depending on what you want to 24 determine the return on the investment, there are two 25 views to show that this is currently or extremely</p>	<p>1 know that this company can clearly spend money on all of 2 these things, yet if there's a gas explosion, we have to 3 cover that. Yet if they want to build projects that are 4 likely to be stranded assets, we have to cover that. 5 There is no options, there's no chances. 6 We are in a monopoly system over unnecessary 7 commodity, and to see that entity out spending money in 8 such a way while also asking for more on such a frequent 9 basis, you are the people to protect us from that. 10 You're in such a unique position to do that, and when we 11 factor in all of the other things associated with some 12 of PSE's choices, it's an even bigger deal that goes 13 beyond making sure that the public's money is taken care 14 of. 15 You know, for me personally, I really care 16 about where my money goes. I try and look into 17 companies before I buy products. You know, I -- I don't 18 want to, you know, give -- give money to someone I -- I 19 know does things that I think are immoral, and I think a 20 lot of us try and do that. And so to be forced to give 21 money to a company that you know is doing really immoral 22 things, you know, that's -- that's an extra thing that 23 we need you to protect us from in this particular 24 circumstance unfortunately. 25 And a couple of those things are actually,</p>

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<p>1 you know, connected to the gas use in general and to 2 that Tacoma LNG project. When we talk about gas use in 3 general and continuing that after having these dire 4 warnings for a year and a half now from the 5 international [sic] Panel on Climate Change, we do this 6 knowingly. When we continue to use gas knowing that 7 most of it comes from fracking and fracking is poisoning 8 our already shrinking clean drinking water supply, we do 9 that knowingly. When we're complicit in companies that 10 choose to make these decisions, we're a part of that. 11 If my money is going to that, I am complicit in that. 12 If you're making the decision that they can charge us 13 that, you are complicit in that.</p> <p>14 When we talk about continued fossil fuel use 15 and we talk about fracking, we're talking about missing 16 and murdered indigenous women and the incidents of that 17 that follow these man camps at these extractive types of 18 sites. It's a culture of behavior within these 19 companies that has not been corrected, yet we continue 20 to do it. We're complicit in knowing that there are 21 refineries being built to deal with this gas. We're 22 complicit in knowing where most of those refineries are 23 located such as the Tacoma LNG project.</p> <p>24 Where is that being sited? Right on the 25 edge of the Puyallup Tribe's reservation? Within less</p>	<p>1 at this point in time to continue gas use. We make this 2 knowingly when we allow a company that builds without 3 their permits on treaty land against consent. We are 4 complicit in the continued genocide of indigenous people 5 on the other end of that pipeline. I'm not sure if 6 you're aware, but up in B.C., Canada, there's a group of 7 people called the Unist'ot'en people. They were 8 forcibly evacuated at gunpoint from their unceded treaty 9 territory a couple months ago for a gas pipeline from 10 the general area where gas would come from for this 11 project, for the proposed Kitimat project. This is 12 still happening today, and recently it was released that 13 the RCMP up there were ready to use deadly force on 14 those people if they did not leave of their own accord.</p> <p>15 We are complicit in this behavior when you 16 accept continued rate hikes for fracked gas. We can't 17 keep doing this, and we can't keep doing business as 18 usual when we know where we're at with the climate. So 19 not only are there all those social justice issues, 20 which we just talked about there, but the global 21 scientific community says keep it in the ground. Please 22 help the public to move away from fossil fuels.</p> <p>23 Puget Sound Energy is part of one of the -- 24 the group that was created that's spending a million 25 dollars in the Pacific Northwest on a PR campaign to</p>
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<p>1 than a mile from homes? Within less than two miles of 2 the Northwest Detention Center where over 1500 people 3 have to breathe in all of those fumes every day in a 4 for-profit immigration prison.</p> <p>5 And we go back to the same City Council 6 people in Tacoma taking money from both the people 7 locking up those poor people in Northwest Detention 8 Center that are also taking the money from PSE, yet 9 they're allowed to make decisions that give contracts to 10 these companies. Yet it's okay for PSE to spend all 11 this money on campaign contributions. So in a certain 12 way, we're paying to do this to ourselves because we 13 keep allowing these rate increases knowing what they're 14 doing. We are complicit in all of that behavior.</p> <p>15 That project is being built on treaty land 16 against the consent of the Puyallup people in an unsafe 17 location. So not only are they having refinery issues 18 right there in a place where people are already 19 suffering from massive health issues, but there's a 20 safety issue there. They're being forced to live next 21 to what pretty much is a ticking time bomb. Part of 22 this rate increase is being asked for because of a gas 23 explosion, yet we're supposed to believe that this is 24 safe, reliable, and clean.</p> <p>25 We do this knowingly when we make decisions</p>	<p>1 push back against any efforts to stop gas in new 2 residential buildings and anything else that can limit 3 gas infrastructure. They're using our money to do that. 4 Please help us. Thank you.</p> <p>5 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. Thank you very 6 much.</p> <p>7 John Carlton?</p> <p>8 MR. CARLTON: Good evening, and thank you 9 for allowing me to share my thoughts. I want to say I 10 really appreciate everybody who showed up tonight and 11 spoke -- has spoken out against this proposal to 12 increase profit for Puget Sound Energy at the cost of 13 ratepayers.</p> <p>14 One word comes to mind when I think of Puget 15 Sound Energy and it's corruption. Here we have a 16 monopoly. There's no challenging their monopoly of 17 power in Washington State. I can't go to another 18 company to get whether it be gas or electricity 19 depending on where I live, there's -- there are no other 20 options. And so to -- to give them a greater amount of 21 profit is just -- it's corrup- -- all I see is 22 corruption.</p> <p>23 And I hope that -- and I know that not 24 everyone is involved in -- in the corruption, but the 25 machine is lubed as we've heard tonight from multiple</p>

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<p>1 people that they -- they are financing every winning 2 campaign in Washington State. They're -- even losing 3 campaigns. They're pushing money in every direction 4 because that's how they know that they can have their 5 way.</p> <p>6 And so this money is going to be spent to 7 lube corruption. That's what they need this extra money 8 for as well as profit for the investors elsewhere. But 9 this is not in the interest of the public that they're 10 going to make -- that we would allow them to make more 11 profit is -- is of no value to us at all. It's going 12 to -- it's going to make it worse for us. Not only is 13 it money out of our pocket, but it's -- it's -- it's 14 granting more power to this -- this corrupt monopoly.</p> <p>15 So I hope you will take this opportunity to 16 put the clamp down on this company and not allow them to 17 continue to -- to make more and more profit at our 18 expense.</p> <p>19 And for me, there are many things wrong 20 with -- with Puget Sound Energy. I live in Tacoma and 21 I've been following what's happened with this liquified 22 natural gas refinery that most people spoke on.</p> <p>23 They actually took me to court when I did a 24 public records request to find out what the safety 25 issues were, that I had one day to prepare for court.</p>	<p>1 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Thank you, sir.</p> <p>2 Claudia Riedenous, did I get that wrong?</p> <p>3 MS. RIEDENER: Almost. Almost right. Hi.</p> <p>4 Good evening. My name is Claudia Riedener, and I am 5 from Tacoma. And I want to say thank you for hosting us 6 and thank you for not having a big time clock clicking 7 away that makes everybody nervous, so thank you for 8 that.</p> <p>9 I also want to acknowledge that we are on 10 indigenous land and indigenous people indeed are 11 suffering tremendously from extractive industries like 12 we already heard. The Washington State Board of Health 13 did a study on indigenous women and asthma and 14 respiratory illness, and they suffer four times worse. 15 So that LNG facility in Tacoma situated inside a tribal 16 reservation is a -- is a tremendous hurt to indigenous 17 people.</p> <p>18 I also want to say I'm not paid to be here, 19 and I will bet most people that speak here are not paid 20 to be here, but we know PSE is here and they're very 21 well paid to be here.</p> <p>22 So I -- I am not sure how they are allowed 23 again to even ask for gas money increases. We are 24 really fortunate in Tacoma, we have Tacoma Public 25 Utilities. It's our -- it's our own utility. We -- we</p>
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<p>1 Fortunately, I had done my own research already. I 2 didn't have a lawyer, but I can tell you Puget Sound 3 Energy did. They had the most expensive law team from 4 Seattle come down and make spurious arguments that -- 5 why I should not receive the information that I had made 6 a request for. And, you know, that cost them a lot of 7 money to try to keep public records from the -- from the 8 public. And they failed, but they -- that's what they 9 want to spend this money on. They -- this is not to the 10 benefit of the public that they're seeking. They're 11 seeking more profit, they're seeking more control, and 12 it's time to put the clamp down on these guys.</p> <p>13 And also, this is for -- this is -- for gas, 14 the time is now. This is a climate crisis. Australia 15 is going through an apocalypse right now. I can tell 16 you what science is telling us -- and it's not just me. 17 Everyone -- science is uniformly telling us that we have 18 to stop pulling fossil fuels out of the ground 19 immediately. If Puget Sound Energy wants to make more 20 money on gas, no. This is our chance to say we're not 21 going to allow you to make more money on gas. You need 22 to find other alternatives, sustainable energy sources.</p> <p>23 So anyway, I appreciate you taking the time 24 listening to us, and please don't allow them to increase 25 rates on this.</p>	<p>1 have transparency. We manage to get to go talk with 2 them, we have our questions answered. I don't know 3 if -- if you have ever talked to residents, and when 4 they try to talk to PSE, it's not very easy.</p> <p>5 So I -- I'm not sure how they can ask for 6 more money for gas. The gas prices over the last 12 7 months have collapsed by 50 percent. That is such a 8 tremendous drop to where you would think we -- we as -- 9 as gas utility monopoly ratepayers would get a windfall 10 from this. But instead, just two months ago they got 11 over 14 percent increases. And why? Because the 12 Canadian gas pipeline blew up. So even though the 13 market prices for gas are collapsing, we are now forced 14 to pay for Canadian infrastructure because a Canadian 15 interest company purchased PSE. Something's really not 16 right here.</p> <p>17 And also, if PSE wants to have more money 18 for investors, it's the Canadian pension investment 19 fund. Do you know that your staff here at Washington 20 State, those pensions are not allowed to be invested in 21 fossil fuels because fossil fuels are killing the 22 planet. But yet you ask of us to pay more to feed 23 foreign pension funds in a fossil fuel gamble in a -- in 24 a fossil fuel racket? Please, please don't.</p> <p>25 In 2018, PSE paid no federal taxes. How</p>

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<p>1 many millions? 68-, 69-? Where did that money go? I 2 can tell you where we see the moneys going in Tacoma. 3 We get glossy brochures, we get lie upon lie upon lie 4 told about this LNG refinery. We get push-pulls, we get 5 PSE calling people, thousands of people at home telling 6 the people, complaining about the Puyallup Tribe and 7 basically glorifying the politicians they're supporting 8 in push-pulls, calling into the phone lines to people's 9 homes to people's ears. We pay for that. 10 We see PSE with -- with banners and posters 11 and TV advertisements. It cannot be turned off. It's 12 ridiculous. It's on -- on every platform. We don't 13 even have a TV, and yet still because we get washed with 14 all this PSE spending money like there is no tomorrow 15 because maybe in their mind there might not be a 16 tomorrow. 17 I -- I -- I beg of you. I don't know how 18 many times you have not allowed an increase. I don't 19 know how many times you ever have decreased a demand of 20 increase by this monopoly. I beg you now to -- to -- to 21 do what's right, to do what's right in the interest of 22 the people of this state. It's -- it's urgent. It's 23 urgent on so many levels. And the fact that -- that -- 24 that very soon if you approve the 43 percent share of 25 this LNG, you will hoist it upon us too.</p>	<p>1 under oath. I am going to be speaking under oath about 2 my own experience with public and private utilities. 3 I'm not a native of Washington. I moved 4 here in the year 2000. So I have been a customer of 5 Pacific Gas and Electricity otherwise known as PG&E, 6 SoCal Edison, Sacramento Utilities, which is public, 7 Avista when I lived in Spokane, and now I am not a 8 customer, I am not a ratepayer of PSE because I live in 9 senior HUD housing and my electricity is provided by 10 Tacoma Public Utilities. I will reiterate the testimony 11 of the people who came before me from Tacoma about PSE's 12 campaign. They are always -- they just don't contribute 13 to campaigns, they are on a constant campaign to 14 greenwash our community. 15 I live, as I said, in senior HUD housing. I 16 am not a ratepayer and neither are any of the tenants 17 who live in that apartment complex, and yet we receive 18 six- and eight-page glossy brochures, you know, 19 oversized glossy, full color postcards. You know, who 20 pays for this? I don't know. You know, do you know? 21 Do you know how much is paid for the campaigns that PSE 22 continually puts out on TV, on Internet, in cards, 23 brochures, mailers on a constant basis, and now they 24 want a rate increase for their shareholders? 25 This is not a local company. It does not in</p>
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<p>1 I don't know if you know -- if you speak 2 ever to -- to PSE customers and what happens when their 3 gas gets turned off. It's hundreds and hundreds and 4 hundreds of dollars to turn it back on. And -- and who 5 is paying for this? The poorest of the poor, the ones 6 who can least afford it. So please do not allow this 7 hurt to go on. 8 PSE shut all the -- all the customer 9 offices, all the customer offices in the entire region, 10 they're all shut down. And do you know where PSE is 11 sending customers if they have any -- any way to pay the 12 bills? Payday loan stations. It's beyond symbolic. 13 It's beyond symbolic. Is this really where you want to 14 go? And every time the community rises up out of their 15 own time with -- with their own effort, with their own 16 goodwill and tries to create a public utility, you know 17 what PSE does? They swarm. They clobber them. They 18 knock them down, they beat them down, and then they turn 19 around and ask for more money. Please, you must stand 20 in the way. It's -- it's time. Just say no. Thank 21 you. 22 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Thank you very much. 23 Carol King? 24 MS. KINDT: Good evening. My name is Carol 25 Kindt, and I want to emphasize that I was asked to speak</p>	<p>1 any way benefit local consumers. And I know that the 2 Public Utilities Commission in California did a grave 3 disservice by allowing PG&E to go on unabated, unwatched 4 for decades until tragedies happened. The same thing 5 will happen in this state with PE -- PSE if it is 6 allowed to continue as it has been. Thank you. 7 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Thank you. 8 All right. Nikie Walters? 9 MS. WALTERS: Hi, my name's Nikie. 10 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Nikie, okay. I'm sorry 11 about that. 12 MS. WALTERS: It's okay. 13 So I bought my first house in Tacoma back in 14 2016, and I am originally also from Southern California. 15 I've been there my whole life, and California is the 16 land of my ancestors. I moved here because of the 17 climate in California. I was planning on moving to 18 Oregon, and I ended up here instead because of job 19 transfers. So I guess in that sense, you can refer to 20 me as a climate refugee. 21 As soon as I moved to Tacoma, I realized 22 there was something wrong, and so I attended my first 23 City Council meeting. Around that time, right before 24 that, I -- I went to the -- there was a -- like a home 25 show over at the -- at the convention center, and I just</p>

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<p>1 bought my home, you know, and so I thought I'd go down 2 there and check it out. 3 And there was a booth there that was from 4 PSE, and I didn't know anything about, you know, pretty 5 much everything out here. I -- I had just moved out 6 here. And they were offering like somebody to come over 7 to my house, like a third-party person or something like 8 that, to come over to my house and evaluate if my home 9 was energy efficient. And so it was free, I was like, 10 heck, yeah, you know, I want to find out where I can 11 save money.</p>	<p>1 exploded up in B.C. and everybody was told to cut back 2 on their gas and -- and don't take a shower, you know, 3 don't -- don't run any hot water in your -- in your 4 washing machine, I'll tell you what. I went outside -- 5 when -- when I saw that was happening, I went outside to 6 look at my meter and it was running backwards. 7 So, you know, I felt like, you know, why do 8 I get the privilege to, you know, not have to cut back 9 on my consumption when everybody else has to, you know. 10 And why -- and -- I was -- I was able to, you know, do 11 my laundry, I was able to -- to do my dishes, I was able 12 to do anything I wanted that a lot of -- in my home that 13 a lot of other people couldn't do for -- I don't 14 remember how many days that was.</p>
<p>12 And they came, the guy came, and he 13 evaluated my home, and the only -- the only appliance in 14 my home that -- that ran off of gas at that time was -- 15 was my furnace. Everything else was electric. And that 16 was actually one of the selling points for my home 17 because -- for me because I was interested in eventually 18 putting solar on my house. And I thought, oh, you know, 19 that -- that won't be a huge conversion if I were to 20 have like, you know, stove and water heater and 21 everything else, you know, that could be gas. 22 But anyway, this man came, and he tried to 23 talk me into converting my appliances into gas, telling 24 me that, you know, how much cheaper it is than 25 electricity and -- and everything. And that was pretty</p>	<p>15 But, you know, I feel like, you know, 16 companies like PSE, they -- they try to make people feel 17 like that they're -- that they're -- they're needed, and 18 they're not. It's more of a forced dependancy issue 19 that we're having with these nasty fossil fuels that are 20 killing our earth. And, you know, as -- as John 21 explained the corruption, they're -- you know, we need 22 to be honest. We need to be honest with each other, we 23 need to be -- and companies need to be honest with the 24 people that, you know, they're providing services for. 25 And PSE is not doing that. That's why I</p>
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<p>1 much his evaluation of my home, that my home was pretty, 2 you know, insulated really good and everything. But 3 anyway, so I was like, no, I don't know about that 4 because I -- I want to go solar at my house eventually. 5 That -- that's not going to work. 6 So upon like attending my first City Council 7 meeting, I figured out that there was actually, indeed, 8 a big problem in Tacoma, and it was that LNG refinery 9 that was being built down there at the tide flat -- on 10 the tide flats. And that was a -- well, there are some 11 other issues too, but that was -- that was one of them. 12 And anyway, upon -- upon learning about PSE 13 and, you know, the way they go about their business, it 14 pushed me to go ahead and put solar on my home. So it's 15 been two years now since I've had solar on my home. I 16 decided that I was -- you know, like Stacy was 17 explaining, you know, that, you know, I'm -- I'm one of 18 those type of people that like to look into the type of 19 companies that I'm -- that I'm financially supporting. 20 You know, I feel like I have a moral obligation to do 21 that. And so I decided to go ahead and put the solar in 22 a lot sooner than I was planning just because I was 23 having a moral conflict with giving this company my 24 money. 25 And I'll tell you what, when that pipeline</p>	<p>1 took the initiative to do my part and defund them out of 2 my home. I had them come cap the lines off in the 3 street and remove their rusted meter off the side of my 4 home, because I'm one of those people that I won't, I 5 won't. 6 There's alternatives, there's other ways. 7 We don't have to keep feeding these monsters. And I ask 8 you to please help the people that don't have the 9 privilege that I have that -- that I -- that I afforded 10 myself. Thank you. 11 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Thank you very much. 12 Joe Hiss? 13 MR. HISS: You actually pronounced my last 14 name correctly. 15 CHAIRMAN DANNER: I think that's the first 16 this evening. 17 MR. HISS: Joe Hiss, yes. 18 Many people have already spoken to the same 19 issue that I came here thinking that I might be the only 20 one left to address it, and that was how our actions 21 today are affecting global climate change. And they've 22 certainly spoken about that much more eloquently than I 23 could do, so I'm just going to try to fit my 24 presentation into a few more specific things, which all 25 are motivated by my interest in climate protection.</p>

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<p>1 First of all, like the previous speaker, I</p> <p>2 have installed solar panels on my house with reversed</p> <p>3 metering, and I know full well that that's not all that</p> <p>4 I should be doing. So I -- every day I have to examine</p> <p>5 my conscience and say, what more can I do?</p> <p>6 So what I want to do tonight is this bro- --</p> <p>7 this flyer that you have here called Clean Energy in</p> <p>8 Washington State, I think that it's heartening to hear</p> <p>9 the Utilities and Transportation Commission is putting</p> <p>10 out such an item, which specifies Washington State's</p> <p>11 goals for the next -- well, 2045, and the question is,</p> <p>12 will this be enough? Will we have to phase out fossil</p> <p>13 fuels only when we get to 2045 or should we be furiously</p> <p>14 working on this to get the -- the job done a lot</p> <p>15 quicker? I think a lot quicker seems to be the obvious</p> <p>16 conclusion of most of the people who have studied the</p> <p>17 issue.</p> <p>18 Secondly, I would say on this -- this second</p> <p>19 page, there's clean energy plans and rulemaking, and</p> <p>20 then there's Utilities and Transportation Commission</p> <p>21 support of reporting and advisory committees. And</p> <p>22 curiously, first paragraph under Clean Energy says the</p> <p>23 act requires Washington's investor-owned utilities have</p> <p>24 to develop clean energy implementation by January of</p> <p>25 22 -- of twenty twenty -- 2022. But then UTC support</p>	<p>1 working fast and furious to change their plans since</p> <p>2 they know that the 2018 plan is no longer going to be</p> <p>3 possible. And they assured me that they were going to</p> <p>4 take radical action. So far so good.</p> <p>5 I only spoke briefly with that person, so I</p> <p>6 need your help to make that come true to make sure that</p> <p>7 you hold their feet to the fire and have them convert</p> <p>8 from fossil fuels to renewable fuels just as soon as</p> <p>9 possible. Thank you.</p> <p>10 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Thank you very much,</p> <p>11 Mr. Hiss.</p> <p>12 All right. Bradley Thompson?</p> <p>13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: He wasn't speaking.</p> <p>14 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Okay. Thank you very</p> <p>15 much.</p> <p>16 And that takes us looks like to the end.</p> <p>17 Mr. Yoos, we do not have a sign language</p> <p>18 interpreter available. We had asked that those -- if</p> <p>19 you needed that to contact us in advance, and I regret</p> <p>20 that we don't have a person here tonight unless there is</p> <p>21 someone in the audience.</p> <p>22 Tom Nogler, are you present?</p> <p>23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Person passed away</p> <p>24 recently.</p> <p>25 CHAIRMAN DANNER: Oh. Could someone else</p>
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<p>1 reporting advisory committees says that their first</p> <p>2 report won't come out until 2024. And it seems to me</p> <p>3 that it -- since the reports appear to me to be covering</p> <p>4 similar material, they ought to have the same years when</p> <p>5 they're required.</p> <p>6 Then it says, second sentence under Clean</p> <p>7 Energy Plans, every four years is when the updates are</p> <p>8 due, but the last sentence, first paragraph, that UTC</p> <p>9 support reporting advisory says every two years. So I'm</p> <p>10 just wondering why are there different deadlines for</p> <p>11 reports? We seem to have the same material in them.</p> <p>12 Finally, I think that the clean energy</p> <p>13 rulemaking plans, it says, (as read) In its review of</p> <p>14 what the companies do, the utilities and transportation</p> <p>15 committee will consider the safety and reliability of</p> <p>16 grid, the lowest reasonable cost for electricity, and</p> <p>17 identify impacts to low income customers and the</p> <p>18 environment. The last word of that sentence is really</p> <p>19 the key thing. The environment can't wait. So we ought</p> <p>20 to at least implement the current legislation to the</p> <p>21 fullest. And after that, let the chips fall where they</p> <p>22 may. We don't have time to waste.</p> <p>23 So I'll close by saying I spoke briefly with</p> <p>24 a representative to the County Planning Commission from</p> <p>25 Puget Sound Energy, and she was saying that they're</p>	<p>1 read what he wrote?</p> <p>2 Mr. Yoos --</p> <p>3 Should we take a video of him and have it</p> <p>4 translated for the record?</p> <p>5 So this is what I suggest, Mr. Yoos.</p> <p>6 Andrew, can you write down for him?</p> <p>7 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thanks. I'm</p> <p>8 accustomed to being silenced.</p> <p>9 CHAIRMAN DANNER: So what I would like to</p> <p>10 propose -- yeah, let's -- can -- can we take a -- we'll</p> <p>11 take a short break, and then we will come back to you,</p> <p>12 Mr. Yoos, because we do want to hear what you have to</p> <p>13 say. I think that one option we will have, Mr. Pertner</p> <p>14 is in the back.</p> <p>15 Do you have a cell phone that is video</p> <p>16 capable? Can you take a video of Mr. Yoos' testimony</p> <p>17 and then we can have someone take care of it and get it</p> <p>18 into the record?</p> <p>19 So, yeah, we will take a -- we'll take a</p> <p>20 three-minute break and then we'll get that set up. Is</p> <p>21 there anyone else who has signed in to speak tonight?</p> <p>22 MR. ROBERTS: There's two on the line.</p> <p>23 CHAIRMAN DANNER: There's two on the line?</p> <p>24 All right. So we'll be back in just a few minutes,</p> <p>25 then. We're off the record.</p>

1 (Break taken from 7:36 p.m.
 2 until 7:45 p.m.)
 3 CHAIRMAN DANNER: We're back on the record.
 4 Andrew, did you say they're there?
 5 MR. ROBERTS: They're gone now.
 6 CHAIRMAN DANNER: They're gone now, all
 7 right.
 8 Okay. We are off the record.
 9 (Pause in the proceedings.)
 10 CHAIRMAN DANNER: All right. So we're going
 11 to conclude tonight. We will take Mr. Yoos' comments in
 12 written form, and then we will adjourn for the evening.
 13 We have another public hearing that will be on January
 14 22nd at the Bellevue City Hall at 6:00 p.m., and then we
 15 begin the evidentiary hearing in this case on February
 16 6th and 7th. So with that, we will be adjourned. Thank
 17 you.
 18 (Adjourned at 7:48 p.m.)
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1 CERTIFICATE
 2
 3 STATE OF WASHINGTON
 4 COUNTY OF THURSTON
 5
 6 I, Tayler Garlinghouse, a Certified Shorthand
 7 Reporter in and for the State of Washington, do hereby
 8 certify that the foregoing transcript is true and
 9 accurate to the best of my knowledge, skill, and
 10 ability.
 11
 12
 13 _____
 14 Tayler Garlinghouse, CCR 3358
 15
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