

**From:** [Sara Cate](#)  
**To:** [UTC DL Records Center](#)  
**Subject:** Docket Numbers UE-160918 and UG-160919  
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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the Puget Sound Energy's plan to potentially build a natural gas plant rather than to use clean renewables to replace coal facilities. The burning of fossil fuels whether it is natural gas or coal is associated with numerous health effects. The burning of fossil fuels affects the health of everyone but particularly affects the most vulnerable in our society - children, pregnant women, the elderly and the poor. The effects from the burning of fossil fuels are multiple [reference](#). They include respiratory and cardiac effects directly from pollutants released from combustion of these fuels and from climate change. Climate change is increasing the frequency of heat stroke, attacks of asthma and emphysema due to increases in urban ozone levels and smoke from more frequent and bigger forest fires in the Northwest [reference](#) along with an array of other health issues. I work in Ellensburg at a Community Health of Central Washington and this past summer the Jolly Peak and Norse Peak fires kept many of my patients with asthma and COPD indoors for most of the summer. They complained not only of worsening ability to breath but depression from not being able to go outside or do the activities they enjoy such as gardening or being with friends. It is well established that with efforts such as the Clean Air Act millions of lives have been saved from premature death from improvements in our air quality and this has been cost effective. [EPA studies](#) Climate change and the continued burning of fossil fuels threatens our public health and will start to reverse the major health benefits of the Clean Air Act. Climate change is happening now and is affecting our health but we can slow these changes by choosing 100% clean energy. I highly recommend for the health of the people of Washington State and beyond that PSE choose clean and healthy renewables to replace our coal facilities.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

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