

Barbara Ford  
P.O. Box 296 (506 Grinnell Ave. SW)  
Orting, WA 98360

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RECORDS MANAGEMENT  
JAN 24 2020  
STATE OF WASH.  
UTIL. & TRANSP. COMMISSION

January 22, 2020

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Dear Commissioners:

Please do NOT approve Puget Sound Energy's current proposed rate increase.

I do not have a choice in my electricity and natural gas utility provider and if I did, I would not be a PSE customer. Six months of the year, my power bill is my largest expense. (The other six months, I keep the furnace off completely and do not heat my home with electricity.) I work full time, I have an insulated home and turn the heat and lights off when I am not at home. Still, the rates are already so high I struggle to keep up with the power bill.

In contrast, the CEO of Puget Power is compensated \$7 million per year, a figure most working people cannot even imagine. The company obviously does not need this money, but the proposed 7-9 percent increase in my bill means the difference between my purchasing groceries or augmenting my pantry with a visit to the foodbank.

The company states it needs to make up for losses sustained in a pipeline explosion in Canada, carrying gas to Canadian markets and not in Washington. Reports show the explosion was due to poor engineering on the part of Puget Power employees. In addition, Puget Power uses its profits to feed pension accounts which only benefit Canadians. Washington citizens should not have to bear the costs of the company's poor practices, compensate Canadian markets, or feed foreign pensions.

It is also disturbing to me that the company participates in fracking and other practices which are environmentally damaging.

This proposed rate increase for Washington is unnecessary, will be used to further damage the environment, and is patently unfair to Washington citizens. Do not burden Washington ratepayers who have no choice in their utility provider with the expenses of a mistake for which the company's CEO could write a personal check to remedy. Please do not approve the proposal.

Sincerely,



Barbara Ford

Ford  
P.O. Box 296  
Olympia, WA 98500

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STATE OF WASH.  
UTIL. & TRANSP. COMMISSION

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Enclosed  
Public Comments

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