

## Burdet, Kevin (ATG)

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**From:** Cedar Bouta <CedarB2@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 6, 2020 10:42 AM  
**To:** comments@utc.wa.gov  
**Cc:** ATG WWW E-mail Public Counsel; customercare@pse.com  
**Subject:** PSE Rate Increase - Docket UE-190529

Good morning:

We are residential electricity customers of PSE in Thurston County.

We are opposed to the average 7.7% rate hikes proposed by PSE. We feel they are too high and not well-documented.

- A 7.7% rate increase is way out of line with our area's average rate of inflation. We feel PSE should be held to the rate of inflation at a maximum and seek additional revenues through efficiencies, reductions in management pay, and reductions in shareholder earnings.
- As noted in PSE's customer notice, they are attributing the need for a rate increase to accommodate increases in residential solar. As one of their residential solar customers, we would like to better understand how our investment in solar on our home – which equates to an interest free capital loan to PSE to build regional solar capacity – is a primary reason for an excessive rate hike. To punish ratepayers for doing what's needed to move us off coal seems contrary to any public benefit criteria for a rate hike.
- PSE also attributes the proposed rate increase to the rise in electric vehicle use. We would like to better understand how vehicles that minimize the use of fossil fuels creates a burden on PSE's solvency or shareholders. It seems like electric vehicle power demands would be offset by the residential and commercial solar power and the extensive savings PSE can achieve through conservation measures across all the service sectors. Again, we believe PSE can achieve the necessary revenues through efficiencies, reductions in management pay, and reductions in shareholder earnings.

In summary, this rate proposal is way out of line with a reasonable increase for anyone trying to make ends meet, doesn't provide a public benefit given the climate emergency we are facing, and seems contrary to preparing PSE for a clean energy future. And if we are being truly cynical, it seems more like a marketing ploy by a company invested in perpetuating fossil fuel use.

Please include us on any information regarding the rate hearing and future decisions regarding this rate proposal.

Thank you for your time.

C. Bouta and L. Goldstein  
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