

Mak, Chanda (ATG)

From: john mott <jmott74@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 19, 2021 12:18 PM
To: ATG WWW E-mail Public Counsel
Subject: PSE Rate increase

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[EXTERNAL]

I am writing to encourage you to oppose Puget Sound Energy's proposed rate increase.

As a public utility provider in Washington, PSE is required to apply for approval of a rate increase with the Washington Utilities and Transportation commission. The public has the opportunity to comment before a decision is made.

To submit your comments on the proposed increase:

- Email the Public Counsel Unit of the Washington Office of the Attorney General, who is assigned to represent residential and small business customers in this case, at utility@atg.wa.gov
- Comment on the Washington State UTC's website at utc.wa.gov/comment

Many households and small businesses are struggling financially due to the pandemic. Puget Sound Energy's 2020 SEC filing reports \$295 Million of after tax earnings (https://last10k.com/sec-filings/81100#link_fullReport). While it is of course important that utility companies stay in business as a critical part of our infrastructure, it would seem that now is not the time to ask the public to pay increased utility costs to support healthy profits for PSE investors. PSE includes "decreasing customer electricity usage" in their list of reasons supporting their request for a rate increase. While the public attempts to conserve usage as they are encouraged to do- and in many cases, likely in an attempt to save on household expenses- PSE's response is to simply seek to increase the rates to make up the difference.

Regards,

John Mott