From:	Patrick J. Christie
To:	UTC DL Records Center
Cc:	Patrick J. Christie
Subject:	Regarding UE-160918 and UG-160919
Date:	Monday, January 15, 2018 7:22:04 PM

Dear Commissioners,

As a UW faculty member who studies and teaches about climate change, energy, and social impacts (as well as a PSE customer), I'm writing to strongly encourage you to fully support sourcing from 100% renewable energy sources as key infrastructure systems are renewed. I'm all for balanced approaches to energy policy and environmental management. In other words, while I'm quite concerned about the future we are passing to the next generation, I'm not an advocate for policy based purely on environmental concerns. Renewable energy sources, rather than natural gas, should be where PSE sources future energy for diverse reasons.

There are environmental, economic and health reasons for my preference: 1) the long effects of fracking are unknown, but we know that aquifers are irreparably damaged (Who will pay for the clean up? the health impacts?), 2) there is scientific consensus that the use of fossil fuels, including natural gas, are driving climate change, 3) climate change will have massive and unpredictable impacts on Pacific Northwest businesses and homes, ecosystem services and citizen health. Do you and PSE want to be part of the solution, or part of the problem?

As we know, leadership currently is not coming from the federal government. So, your decision at the local level is essential. I implore to insist that PSE be part of the global movement to reform energy policy and infrastructure to embrace renewable energy. Sourcing energy from liquid gas, despite what some would say, is not a progressive policy decision. Rather, it's the part of the same narrative that's been used to justify fossil fuel energy generation for decades – 'we can't possible jump toward wind and solar, it's not feasible. It's too expensive.' That's simply not true. Many of us would gladly pay for a sustainable future. Do we have a choice?

The PNW has vast untapped renewable energy assets waiting to be developed. Environmental, economic, and health benefits are waiting to be harvested. Policy, environmental, and economic leadership is essential. Are you willing to demonstrate such leadership so that PSE can meet the interests of its customers? I trust you will.

Sincerely, Patrick Christie

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