

To: Amanda, Maxwell, Executive Director and Secretary of Washington Utilities and Transportation (UTC) Committee P.O. Box 47250, Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Date: March 1, 2022

From: Ann Fletcher, Issaquah People for Climate Action (PCA)

Topic: Puget Sound Energy's Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP)--Docket UE-210795

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We are grateful that Washington state has a system where citizens and civic groups can provide input on our utilities. The UTC is in an important position to guide our state at a very crucial time regarding climate change and equity. The urgency to move to a clean, efficient energy grid which reduces greenhouse gas (GHG) emission and creates greater resilience for our communities has never been greater and will only continue to escalate in exponential and increasingly destructive ways.

People for Climate Action Issaquah Chapter believes that local communities can unite with city governments to play a part in mitigating these troubling climate and equity trends. We helped to develop a city environmental board with significant weight given to their recommendations by the mayor and city council. We also were instrumental in the city's development of a comprehensive climate action plan with bold goal, measurable targets, multiple strategies and actions to reduce GHG emissions in fair ways. We are now beginning to implement this plan in partnership with them. Because buildings and energy are the majority of Issaquah's GHG emissions, successful implementation will depend upon its utility provider, PSE, having a highly effective and robust CEIP.

Based on our analysis of the proposed CEIP, we request that the UTC require PSE to make revisions that will:

- Incorporate more current data in its temperature modeling. Their modeling data is decades old. There should also be a plan to continually update our rapidly changing weather data to better predict future capacity needs.
- Accelerate acquisition of new renewable energy resources and storage. As dirty energy power sources such as coal are eliminated and eventually natural gas is reduced, it is essential to be ready to replace them with clean energy sources. This will both reduce GHG emissions and price volatility.
- Expedite and expand their Demand Response and Time Varying Rates programs. Their proposed timeline is excessive. Issaquah and many other regional cities are currently implementing plans to help promote programs like this. Customers can use appliances and charge cars during off peak with reduced rates.
- Offer more programs that promote local solar and battery installations to make our electrical systems cleaner and more reliable. Extreme weather conditions from climate change require power sources people can count on. Distribution of power sources and storage is a sound future-oriented way to strengthen our overall energy resiliency.

Although we are all “busy” with many important issues during these challenging times, we must not let that distract us from doing this one essential thing we ought to do. “Business as usual” will no longer work for any major utility. Instead, all of our businesses and organizations must join together to make the positive impact needed. We ask that UTC be a catalyst to help our energy systems focus on and combat a deadly threat to our people and planet.

Thank you for this chance to participate in a system that respects and encourages citizen participation. We are grateful for your service to the people of Washington.

Sincerely,

Ann Fletcher, on behalf of People for Climate Action, Issaquah Chapter.
Issaquah, WA