

Chiles, Pam (UTC)

From: Pascal Nespeca (pascal.nespeca@gmail.com) Sent You a Personal Message
<automail@knowwho.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 1:59 PM
To: Records Management (UTC)
Subject: Protect Our Climate Future (Docket #200304 and #200305)

Categories: PC

External Email

Dear Washington UTC,

Why make a product that nobody wants to buy? A wind power plant with battery or gravity/hydro based energy storage is a much better investment because there are customers interested in it. Microsoft and Amazon have both given pledges to become climate neutral alongside a number of other businesses. Additionally, my father-in-law is a paying member of PSE green power program. With all of the hydro power, onshore and offshore wind energy potential in the puget sound area, I find it profoundly shortsighted to believe that an investment in natural gas is a wise decision for both the financial health of PSE and obvious environmental consequences. Additionally, it should be stated that those environmental consequences have financial impacts as well. Keeping the NW weather cool and wet is best for electrical transmission. Consider the bankruptcy of California's PGandE after the Santa Clara fire in 2017. It was found that the fire was caused by electrical transmission during hot and dry weather. Unable to escape the fire, people burned alive in Santa Clara and PGandE was sued and now they are bankrupt. An investment in renewables for PSE is an investment in the climate and an investment in it's own financial future.

I am writing to ask the Utilities and Transportation Commission to not allow Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to build new gas power plants for their long-range electricity plan and to reduce their use of gas for the long-range gas plan.

According to the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), natural gas is far more damaging to the climate than previously thought. Gas may be as bad as coal for the climate. And natural gas certainly is not "natural" when the impacts of hydraulic fracturing or "fracking" to extract gas is poisoning groundwater in communities across the country.

Our new 100% clean electricity law -- the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) -- requires all utilities to be 80% fossil fuel free by 2030 and 100% by 2045. The last thing we need to do is build new gas power plants that would be around for decades. The intent of CETA is to wind down on gas power in our electricity, not ramp it up.

Our new state law that establishes science-based fossil fuel reductions that come from the IPCC, call for 95% reductions by 2050 and 70% reductions by 2040. Yet PSE's long-range plan for its gas utility shows virtually no reductions for the next 20 years. PSE fails to follow recommendations in Washington's new State Energy Strategy that identifies moving buildings from gas to electricity as a key strategy for climate protection.

Enough is enough. PSE must take climate change seriously before it is too late. Please reject PSE's electricity and gas plans.

Sincerely,

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