



September 23, 2014

Kimberly Harris, President  
Puget Sound Energy  
10885 NE 4th Street  
Bellevue, WA 98004

Dear Ms. Harris:

The Olympia City Council is grateful for PSE's support of energy conservation and clean, renewable energy technology. All of the efforts PSE is making towards cleaner energy production should be commended and acknowledged, including your commitment to help in the transition to phase out the use of coal generated electricity from the Trans Alta power facility over the next eleven years.

We recognize that a transition from coal to cleaner fuels is complicated and challenging. Nonetheless, we also strongly believe that given the gravity of climate change and its consequences that we all must do more than we are currently doing. That is why we are writing to you with the specific request that PSE identify what will be needed in order to completely retire coal as a source of power.

We understand that it is not reasonable to expect a quick retirement from coal resources. We do nonetheless believe that it is unconscionable to not be asking for clarity as to what obstacles remain in the way of complete retirement. We are heartened by the Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission's recent suggestion that PSE give further consideration and analysis to the cost of continuing to use coal generated power from Colstrip, Montana. We are also very grateful for the leadership that Governor Inslee has shown in launching his Climate Action Plan in his recent Executive Order in which he identifies transitioning away from coal power as a top priority. We strongly support the Governor's efforts to address climate change and are pleased that you are participating in his Carbon Emissions Reduction Taskforce (CERT) to help further alternatives to carbon polluting power sources.

The Olympia City Council is convinced that unless we take aggressive steps now to clarify what is preventing us from transitioning to cleaner alternatives we will fail to act fast enough to meet the challenges of climate change. That is why we request that you provide clarity about what needs to be done in order to stop sourcing electricity from coal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

**Stephen H. Buxbaum**  
**Mayor**

cc: Keith Phillips, Special Assistant on Climate and Energy, Office of the Governor  
David Danner, Chair, Washington State Utilities and Transportation Commission  
Bryan McConaughy, Senior Local Government Affairs Representative  
Olympia City Councilmembers