

Puget Sound Energy  
P.O. Box 97034  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9734  
PSE.com

July 20, 2017

Heidi Bedwell  
Environmental Planning Manager  
City of Bellevue  
450 110<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012

**Re: Reliability Certification for Energize Eastside 230-kV Project (LUC 20.20.255.E)**

Dear Ms. Bedwell,

Puget Sound Energy, Inc. (PSE) hereby certifies that the proposed electrical utility facility referenced above improves reliability to the customers served and reliability of the system as a whole.

The 2013 Eastside Needs Assessment confirmed that by winter of 2017-18, there is a transmission supply need on the Eastside of Lake Washington which impacts PSE customers and communities in and around Kirkland, Redmond, Bellevue, and Newcastle along with Clyde Hill, Medina, and Mercer Island. The 2015 Needs Assessment reconfirmed that, by winter of 2017-18, there is a transmission capacity deficiency on the Eastside. The supply need focuses on the two 230 kV supply injections into central King County at Sammamish Substation in the north and Talbot Hill Substation in the south. Rigorous comprehensive reliability assessments have been performed under the mandatory North American Electric Reliability Corporation's (NERC) Transmission Planning Standards (TPL-standards) and the WECC Reliability Standards to determine if any potential adverse impacts to the reliability of delivery of electricity exist on the PSE transmission system. In addition to the mandatory reliability standards, PSE also adheres to PSE's Transmission Planning Guidelines which describe how to plan and operate PSE's electric transmission system. These guidelines are in place to encourage the optimal use of the transmission system for service to loads and generators while complying with the mandatory standards. These guidelines also support transfers between utilities, when applicable, to support economic use of available resources.

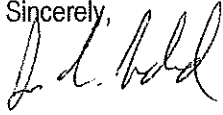
To address this deficiency, PSE plans to build a new 230-115 kV substation in the Bellevue area with a 230-115 kV transformer and upgrade the existing 115-kV lines to 230-kV lines to provide a reliable source to the new substation. The new substation will allow existing 115 kV lines to distribute the power into Eastside communities. This would provide increased capacity and reliability for more than 100,000 customers in the Bellevue, Redmond, Kirkland, Newcastle, Clyde Hill, Medina, Mercer Island, Renton and Issaquah areas.

Completing this infrastructure upgrade would eliminate PSE's reliance on corrective action plans (CAPs). These CAPs could include intentional shedding of the load under certain conditions when re-dispatching the generation and/or sectionalizing the transmission system would not help in reducing the load beyond

capacity limitations of the transmission equipment. Thus, ensuring reliable service to all the Eastside customers and beyond by preventing a large area outage.

Should you have further questions, please feel free to contact Brad Strauch, Energize Eastside Infrastructure Program Manager at 425-456-2556 or [bradley.strauch@pse.com](mailto:bradley.strauch@pse.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Nedrud". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jens Nedrud, PE  
Manager, System Planning  
PUGET SOUND ENERGY