COMMUNITY FORUM
ON ENERGIZE EASTSIDE

June 3, 2014

Hosted by the City of Bellevue

CITY OF BELLEVUE
COMMUNITY FORUM ON ENERGIZE EASTSIDE
MINUTES

Tuesday **Council Chambers**
June 3, 2014 **Bellevue City Hall**
7:30 p.m. **Bellevue, Washington**

Introduction:

Councilmember Lynne Robinson welcomed the audience and thanked everyone for coming to the community forum. She expressed appreciation on behalf of the Council for all the comments the City has already received.

Brad Miyaki, City Manager, gave some background on the Energize Eastside issue and explained that the purpose of tonight's meeting was to take written and oral comments to take back to Council and to share with PSE.

Mike Brennan, Director of Development Services, expressed appreciation for the public input and participation tonight. He explained that reliable power is important, but it is challenging to find ways to bring new infrastructure into the city. He noted that in addition to the written comment cards and oral comments, there is also a link on the City's website to provide comments. He reiterated that comments will be captured and reported to the City Council on June 16. He introduced key staff: Carol Helland, Land Use Division Director and Bellevue's SEPA-responsible official; Nicholas Matz, Senior Planner in Planning and Community Development; Mike McCormick Huentelman, City of Bellevue Neighborhood and Community Outreach Manager; David Pyle, Senior Planner in Development Services.

Mike McCormick Huentelman, City of Bellevue Neighborhood and Community Outreach Manager, reviewed how the public comment process would be handled. He noted that 33 people signed up to speak and that three names would be drawn at a time. He asked that people keep their comments to a three-minute limit in order to allow everyone time to speak.

Public Comments:

Jeff Dubois, 4077 - 120th Avenue SE, Bellevue, spoke on behalf of several dozen homes in the Greenwich Crest neighborhood. He commented how devastating the massive towers would be, how they would destroy the serene feeling of the neighborhoods, and what an eyesore they would be in the communities. He stated that the residents' personal safety is in jeopardy with Segment H along the railroad tracks. He asserted that there is a serious threat of a dozens of homes collapsing in a landslide because of a sensitive slope right where the proposed line would go through. The rail corridor that runs parallel to Lake Washington Blvd. above Newport Shores lies in the middle of a very sensitive slope with homes up on top and more homes and condos down below. In some places that slope is 70 degrees or

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steeper. Hundreds of trees would have to be removed from the hillside for a 1.5 mile proposed stretch with 50 feet being removed on each side of the line. He pointed to the Oso landslide tragedy a few months ago and the devastating effects of what can happen when hillsides are messed with. His neighbors are very concerned and have been in touch with the Geosciences Department at the University of Washington and are also looking into hiring a geotech engineer to help better understand the risks. On top of all the previously stated risks, the neighborhood is very close to the Seattle fault line, which raises additional concerns related to earthquake safety. Residents want to work with the City of Bellevue and PSE to make sure the risks are truly understood and addressed for the safety of the citizens of Bellevue.

Nancy O'Brien Abel, 4401 - 138th Avenue SE, Somerset, stated she has lived in the Bellevue/Seattle area her whole life. She has been a homeowner in Bellevue for 20+ years. She appreciates all the work that CENSE (Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy) has done to explore alternatives to overhead wires; however, if a wired solution is the only alternative, she thinks routes favoring an industrial or commercial corridor should be selected over residential neighborhoods. Specifically, she spoke in support of the Factoria Blvd. route over the J (Somerset) or H (central corridor) route.

Betty Lou Kapela, Bridle Trails, stated that the company that wants to do this is the Macquerie Power Company from Australia which does business in Russia and other foreign countries. She believes the company has the money to underground any power lines they put in. She explained that safety is an issue for the residents. There has already been a huge explosion up north. There is a gas line that carries jet fuel right next to the power line running through their property in Bridle Trails. She would like to see the line rerouted. She spoke in support of C Line. This proposal is in violation of the Bridle Trails Comprehensive Plan and out of the character of the neighborhood. This proposal would definitely devalue the property. She stated that there is already a house in the neighborhood that is not selling because of the power lines. Ms. Kapela stated that her farm is a working horse farm and is the last historical farm left in Bellevue. In the future, as the population increases there may be pressure to put some segment of housing on her farm. She stated that there may be some need for multi-family housing, such as a condos or a retirement home, on their property. She stated that the Bridle Trails line should be removed from the proposal. Wherever it goes, the power should be underground. She noted that her neighborhood is notorious for power outages. One time her family went about two weeks without power, so it doesn't appear that PSE is very concerned about the residents.

Laura Hurdelbrink, Vice President of Bellmeade Association and the neighborhood "Lorax" spoke on behalf of the trees. As a consultant of both consumers and public utilities, she understands the issues on both sides, but noted that no one is speaking for the trees. Communications between various officials at PSE, King County, and the City of Bellevue, always seem to be behind when making a long-term planning change. Bellevue makes changes on a regular basis to roads requiring removal of trees such as what is happening now with 120th. PSE does not have permits now to do the undergrounding to put down that street if it were chosen instead of any others. It's a street with no trees, and there won't be any trees especially after Bellevue has taken care of the completion. Trees are important. As a long-term resident of Bridle Trails she has seen more and more trees removed in the name of progress, for disease, or for the big winds that occasionally happen. Trees are an irreplaceable storage of carbon. She stated that only God can make a tree, but the City of Bellevue can save many trees.

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Todd Andersen, Somerset, stated that he is part of the technical committees that are fighting this on multiple fronts. He stated that the PSE Eastside Needs Assessment document says that for the winter peak load cases no PSE or Seattle City Light generation west of the Cascades will run. This generation is a little under 3,000 megawatts. The Tacoma power generation was left on "due to certain internal system constraints." The generators offline in the Eastside Needs Assessment are listed in Table 4-4. He stated it is quite surprising to him that they can go so long with 3 gigawatts of power turned off and all of a sudden have this need. Also, at the May 19 presentation to the City Council by PSE, Councilmember Lynne Robinson asked what percentage of energy was going to Canada. PSE stated it was 5%, but he asserted that at a bare minimum 38% of the power is going to Canada during peak periods. Finally, last year the California Public Utility Commission unanimously passed legislation forcing the top three for-profit electric utility companies to put in 1.3 gigawatts of battery storage. What this means for Bellevue is that the problems could be solved at a fraction of the cost that PSE is proposing for the power lines. There are a couple dozen other California public utilities that are putting in well over one gigawatt of power. The New York Port Authority is just now putting in grid batteries. Hawaii Electric also announced proposals from 60 to 200 megawatts of power for grid storage. He stated that this means not only do we not need these lines, but a lot of lines that are currently up could probably come down.

Mike Weaver, 2518 - 123rd Avenue SE, Bellevue, Norwood, stated his house happens to be next to the Seattle City Light power lines which some people are proposing as an alternative corridor. He stated that that corridor runs right over the top of Woodridge Hill through a residential area with houses on both sides and an elementary school right next to it. It's also at the top of the hill where tall lines could be an aviation hazard. He spoke in opposition to this alternative since it would affect so many families.

Pat Hansen, Bridle Trails/Segment C homeowner, reported that her neighborhood has two high pressure pipeline easements. Just this last week she noticed a green-vested man crossing her backyard. When she asked why he was there, he said he and another man were contractors hired by PSE checking out poles in her and a neighbor's yard. One of them walked right through a shrub and flower bed. She stated her neighbor had not been notified either. This happens regularly without any notice and is an invasion of privacy. The contractors were sent by PSE to drill, dig and fill holes with a substance. She questioned if these easements should continue to be in private property. The residents receive no benefit. The easement was signed in 1929 when 10 or more acres were grouped together. PSE pays no part of their taxes for the privilege to occupy this space. She asked if the residents should be required to continue to carry this burden for the benefit of everyone. She asked what it would be like in the area when they come in with their big trucks moving poles and wires, putting up monstrous metal poles towering over the trees and homes. She expressed concern about the high pressured petroleum lines underground. She asked what would happen when one of the pipes ruptures after repeated loads by the heavy trucks. This would affect not only the easement owners, but those on adjacent properties. She asked if they should continue to allow PSE/Macquerie, a privately-owned company of investors, to be unjustly enriched by the use of free, private property easements intended for 1929. Bellevue has changed, and the way easements in the City are granted should also be changed so that PSE and other companies do not profit from a burden carried by private property owners. She asked Bellevue to protect private property owners from continuing encroachment by private companies out to make a dollar.

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Dr. Richard Kaner, Hazelwood Lane/Lake Lakes Neighborhood Association, stated his neighborhood is proudly part of CENSE. He said he resents the implication by PSE in the recent *Seattle Times* article that the concerned citizens are a bunch of million dollar homeowners whining about their views and property values. He is concerned about the quality of Bellevue as a community. He expressed concern about residents' health when there are other options. He is concerned about the environment and recreation. There is a carefully crafted Shoreline Management Plan and an opportunity to create a world class lakeside trail. There has always been a commitment to greenery in Bellevue. He is also concerned about property values. Houses are the single largest investment most of them have, and they can't pass the costs on to the rate payers. PSE's Community Advisory Group (CAG) process is deeply flawed. The data presented for decision making, by PSE's admission, is inaccurate. Their solution is to blind the CAG members so they don't know which data applies to which route and then have them vote. The Seattle City Light corridor will be upgraded to meet the needs of Seattle and the region. This may be the best time to replace the "erector set" poles with well-placed undergrounding and less horrific monopoles that meet the needs of PSE, SCL, and BPA. PSE consultants admit that much of the need can be met by adding a third bank to the existing transformer in Sammamish and Lake Talbot. He asked about the connection to Lake Tradition or a combination of all of these. He stated that PSE is not bad. They are no worse than any other company owned by non-Americans who have no interest in the impact on individuals or the community. They are proposing the cheapest, most convenient solution that allows them to protect their margins and participate in the lucrative market of shipping power to Canada, which will be done at the residents' expense. However, PSE is dealing with a community that cares deeply about values that have made this a desirable place to live. This community understands that putting this is in anyone's backyard adds to the industrial blight that will destroy the quality of the East Side. He stated that this is not whining. It is visionary.

Bob Wyler, Bridle Trails, concurred with many of the comments already shared, particularly the opposition to the tall towers running through Bridle Trails, especially the C segment. If the additional power is really needed, he spoke in support of an underground solution. He stated that nobody really knows what the health risks are, and he doesn't think it is right to experiment. This is a staggering amount of additional power to be going through Bellevue in addition to existing lines. Also the City should consider places that minimize impacts going near houses. Both of the proposed corridors, particularly in the northern area go very close to houses on both sides of the Bridle Trails community. He commented that PSE should consider using some of the Seattle City Light lines that are already there. He noted that there are many trees in the Bridle Trails area that would interfere with the large equipment required to do any of the construction that would be necessary. The residents want to maintain the value of their backyards. He urged the Council to encourage PSE to consider underground options, consider the Seattle power corridor as an alternative, and consider construction and other impacts.

Don Miller, 5205 Lakehurst Lane, Lake Lanes Neighborhood, stated he represents the Lake Neighborhood Association, a community of about 200 homes between I-405 and Lake Washington from Newcastle Beach Park to the Seahawks facility. His neighborhood today is facing five major projects that will impact the community. In addition to the PSE proposal, his neighborhood is directly adjacent to proposed Line L. With regard to the PSE projects, the residents have been unhappy with the so-called public process from the beginning since PSE claimed they did not know how to reach the residents. However, in the past 22 years he has received 265 bills from PSE so he knows they know how to reach

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him. The residents did get an alternate CAG seat, but this is not a seat at a table. As an alternate they have little voice in PSE's process, but they have worked to overcome this by aligning with other neighborhoods that have a seat at the table. His neighborhood has attended every open house, every CAG meeting, and every subgroup meeting. Throughout the process they have seen PSE continuously refuse to consider alternatives such as submarining in the lake, giga batteries, sharing the corridor with Seattle City Light, undergrounding, and others. In their meetings PSE has repeated attempted to keep citizens from raising issues or neighborhood concerns or suggestions to modify the process. As involved citizens they have done their research and dug deeply to understand the project, the needs, the routes, and the options. He believes there are alternatives and that PSE cost estimates are inflated. He asserted that there is strong evidence to challenge the question of need. PSE has routinely turned their questions away with weak data and incomplete or unsubstantiated answers or even deceit. For example, PSE repeatedly claimed no design work had been done on any route, but recently residents learned that on Route L PSE had done preliminary design work and conducted a walk-through and even showed the neighbors on Ripley Lane where the poles would be located. Recently, Councilmember Robertson asked PSE if the installation of the transmission lines would cause the removal of trees. PSE never answered the question. Mr. Miller stated that on the L Route alone at least 520 trees will be affected using PSE's own numbers. These are trees that eagles use to perch and teach their young to fish in Lake Washington year after year. He referred to federal requirements to protect eagles and other birds of prey. When the City Council attempted to get a specific answer to the question of the real need for regional use, they were forced to ask the question a variety of different ways as PSE dodged giving a specific answer. He urged the City Council to issue a moratorium on building permits for this project until such time that the questions are answered and PSE's data is validated by independent sources.

Steve Kasner, Lake Hills, stated that this meeting was necessary because the public lost faith in the process as it was designed. He expressed amazement that there were no PSE representatives present at the meeting. He noted that although this has been referred to as a private utility based in Australia, there are best practices all over the country and the world as examples of what cities have done to protect their quality of life, their power grids, and the things that were important to their residents. He stated that the citizens have to make this work for the citizens of Bellevue by putting all the options on the table. It is ludicrous that the City can't get solid numbers about how much energy will be going to Canada. He hopes this will not be the last meeting facilitated by the City on this project. He encouraged the use of technology to meet the needs of the City. He will participate in every part of the process that is available to him.

Warren Halverson, 13701 NE 32 Place, Bridle Trails, stated he and his wife have lived in Bridle Trails for 40 years and their daughters are raising their children there. He is a Bridle Trails alternate on PSE's Community Action Group and has attended all of PSE's Energize Eastside meetings, most of which have been held in Redmond and Renton. He thanked the City of Bellevue for their support in providing a fair, thorough, and accurate assessment of PSE/the Macquerie Group's Energize Eastside initiative. He stated that the Macquerie Group is a multi-billion dollar international banking and hedge fund company in the field of energy development. The citizens need the City's help because PSE's CAG process is totally flawed. Of the 26 representatives only 7 representatives represent neighborhoods. Next, the CAG objective of the selecting a route is not supported by enough detailed information to make the decision. Also, it is basically a forced choice between two routes. Finally, their research process of converting

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issues into subject fields and then asking a small number of people to assign statistical values to it is invalid, unreliable, and statistically insignificant from a research standpoint. The fact that all of the neighborhoods are here in unison, that a non-profit has been formed, and that lawsuits have been filed speaks to the fact that this is an important issue to residents, families, and Bellevue taxpayers. Mr. Halverson then highlighted a few major holistic issues that have not been explored or explained by the Macquerie Group/PSE after months of discussion. He explained that there a number of questions about timeframes, factuality, and assumptions underlying the Eastside Demand Forecast which begs the question of when and whether or not this project is needed. He asked if it is needed to meet Bellevue's, Washington State's, or even California's needs. He pointed to an alternative that suggests that this project is not needed in the timeframe that they have purported. He encouraged the City to explore other alternative routes and other technologies. He spoke in support of undergrounding. PSE says it costs too much, but it is being done around the country at four to ten times less than the Macquerie figures. Other concerns include implications to private property owners' values and neighborhood blights, Olympic Pipeline, and safety and health hazards. In the Bridle Trails neighborhood there are already two major pipelines on a 100-foot easement. The pipelines take up 30 feet of that easement. If you look at best practices, setbacks and zoning for natural gas and hazardous liquid transmission pipelines should be 50 feet off of any structure. The poles being proposed (12-story poles) should have 100 to 160 foot easement. He emphasized that best practices need to be utilized. Bellevue deserves to have those kind of things looked at, considered, and fully implemented. He requested that the City of Bellevue provide a third party approach to PSE in representing the residents.

James Sweet, Somerset, stated that the 130-foot lines would trash residents' property values, but the total value of these power lines is billions of dollars. How can they say they don't have enough money to underground the lines?

John Merrill, Somerset, concurred with previous comments noting that there are alternatives, but PSE took them off the table. The City needs to put them back on the table and have them thoroughly studied. He referred to a graph stating that in less than three years the lights will start going out unless we let PSE trash our neighborhoods. This is a powerful message, but it is false and disingenuous. PSE has been studying the needs of the eastside for decades. They had a number of solutions to the problem other than the one that they prefer now that they have taken off the table. However, they have come to the residents 2½ years before they say the lights are going to go out and say that there is no other choice. This is a false premise. There is time to study this right. We owe it to our children and grandchildren to study this thoroughly in order to preserve the livability and sustainability of the community.

Rehan Alvi, 13675 – 42nd Street, Bridle Trails, spoke in support of his neighbors and the City. He noted that he travels a lot and regularly sees third world countries putting power lines underground. He is shocked that they are talking about putting 12-story power lines above ground in this country. He thinks there is enough money to do this right. He agrees that we owe it to our children and grandchildren.

Scott Shih, Bridle Trails, stated he has been a resident of Bellevue for 7 years. He works at Overlake Hospital which is one of the buildings that uses electricity 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. He joked that they must be the ones responsible for the increased need of electricity. He lives in Bridle Trails along

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Corridor C. Most of the discussions have been about theoretical damage or damage to property values and the serenity of their neighborhood. He shared a cautionary tale. About 3½ years ago a fir tree next door fell on the power line in his back yard. The broken line fell on the metal roof of the barn that was on his property, went down the metal walls, surged down the wire, blew out the mother board on his hot tub, blew out the fuse box, and went all the way to the house and singed the surge protector a personal computer was attached to. His wife heard the tree fall, saw a fire in the backyard, and quickly got the family out of bed and out of the house. When the family returned later they asked PSE to help them fix it. PSE refused and said it was an act of God. He was very disappointed that PSE didn't take responsibility for that situation. Mr. Shih expressed concern about safety and urged them to put the lines underground. He said he didn't realize that the jet fuel was only five feet underground which could be a real hazard. He said he was glad this was being recorded so that if some catastrophe happens, they will have this recording to refer to.

Paul Baker, Woodridge, displayed his marketing materials in opposition to the PSE towers. He explained that his previous house was in Seattle on Aurora, and the power lines congregated on top of his house. He loved the house, but the power lines sullied the look of the house. When he got married he decided to move to Bellevue because it was beautiful and progressive. He is pro-growth, but he is for smart growth. He feels that PSE has blindsided the residents. He commented that Bellevue per capita has the most mental power and technology base of any city in this country, and maybe even the world. If they can't figure out how to do something other than a transmission erector set he would be very surprised. One of the reasons he moved to Woodridge is because the Blue Angels start their flight pattern right over the Woodridge tower. He commented that if they built a 13-story tower his kids will never get to see the pilot wave to them. He urged everyone to go to cense.org and sign the petition.

Howard Katz, Lake Bellevue Village Condos, observed that they haven't talked about a possible solution. Last week PSE visited his neighborhood and it seems like they are trying to pit one neighborhood against the other. It seems to him that where PSE wants to put the power over the Burlington Northern lines, they could put their pipe under the ground, cover the pipe with cement and put a trail on top without requiring the removal of any trees. He urged PSE to look for an underground solution and not pit neighborhoods against each other.

Thomas Abel, 17020 NE 18th Street, Crossroads, said he has been involved in city government in Bellevue since he was about 13 years old. He recognized that some of the hardest work is ahead for the employees of the City of Bellevue. He expressed appreciation to the employees for that. He is a recent new homeowner in the City of Bellevue. He thinks everyone needs to remember that this city was built upon the idea that it is a park within a park; literally it is a community designed to live in nature. He commended CENSE and everyone in orange shirts for the work they have been doing to fight the concept of the power lines. However, he thinks they need to recognize that if these power lines must happen, the residents need to think about ways to do it without damaging the value everyone has in the City without defiling it with huge power lines and a variety of destructive means.

Philip Malte, 36th Place NE just off of 116th Avenue, stated that he and his neighbors are very much potentially impacted by route B. He has lived in Bellevue for 35 years. He stated that 1 gigawatt is the amount of power that would go down this 230 kV line. 1 gigawatt is what a very large nuclear power

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plant puts out. A 1 gigawatt power line coming through neighborhoods would industrialize Bellevue. He asserted that PSE is basically proposing an upgraded version of 1960's technology. He noted that it is almost 2020 so why can't we have 2020 technology. Snohomish PUD is planning to install grid-scale battery storage this year. This means they can hold back on their need for more transmission line. If SnoPUD, which is a smaller utility, can do it, why can't PSE? There is a lot that can be done with distributed generation. This needs to be looked at very seriously, as well as other alternatives.

Jane Mueller, Norwood/Woodridge, 2420 - 123rd Avenue SE, commented that nobody wants to have these high transmission lines in their neighborhoods. They also don't want to be pitting neighborhoods against other neighborhoods. She stated that she would oppose people pointing to the Seattle City Light corridor as a solution. This runs through her neighborhood and affects a huge number of residents in both Norwood and Woodridge. She agrees that it seems like they would have better technology to sort out their energy needs. She believes undergrounding seems like a better solution. Seattle City Light's website says that just for normal power lines they need all of the residents that would be affected to agree. If one doesn't agree, they can't underground. They also indicate that per property it's $30,000 to $50,000 just to underground normal lines. She stated that they need more time to understand the situation, but undergrounding appears to be a possible solution. She reiterated that she opposed the proposed solution of dumping extra power on Seattle City Light lines.

Karen Esayian, Somerset, stated that her backyard is an easement. PSE says it is concerned about keeping the lights on and the residents appreciate that. As residents of Bellevue, they are committed to preserving neighborhoods as places for neighbors, not as a major electric line corridor. She requested that the elected officials exercise their authority and ask that PSE explore other wired and non-wired options for this electrical infrastructure. She asked that these additional options be included in the initial Environmental Impact Statement. The residents are encouraged by the guidelines set out in Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan regarding utilities, particularly that it is important to ensure that new and expanding electrical facilities are sensitive to neighborhood character.

Jennifer Molocha, Trail's End/Bridle Trails, stated she is the fourth generation of her family to be born and raised in the Seattle area. She has lived here her whole life. Right now she has six high tension lines and two pipelines for jet fuel in her backyard. Without notice PSE put a seventh line without telling any of the neighbors along the route that an additional line was going to go in. There are bald eagles in her backyard. She pays taxes on her backyard, but she can't do anything on it. There is a water tower that serves her community. The high tension lines are directly next to the water tower. She suggested looking at alternatives to energy and referred to solar powered roads that can store energy that can actually take all of the power lines out of the sky and give us free, clean energy for generations. She urged the City of Bellevue to protect the citizens and their investments as well as the investment of future generations. She stated it is the City's responsibility.

Dale Naeseth, Bridle Trails/Trail's End, has lived in Bellevue since 1959 and lives along Corridor C. He thinks it is time for Bellevue to just say no. He believes in free enterprise, but they are dealing with a company that is responsible to its stockholders, not the City of Bellevue or any other city. He believes this is a time for the government of the City of Bellevue to shine by getting tough. He doesn't think they can stop this project entirely, but noted that the City knows how to make the permitting process

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difficult. He urged the Council and government to protect the residents of the City of Bellevue and the surrounding communities.

Fred Martin, 4615 - 137th Ave NE, Trail's End, said they have the Olympic Pipeline running through their backyard with 45-foot poles with 115 kV lines running over the field. He looks out there and sees that as his retirement, as his nest egg. He noted that in an article last night in the *Seattle Times*, Mr. Andy Wappler referred to the affected residents as multi-millionaires. Mr. Martin confessed that he is not a multi-millionaire or even a millionaire, but this is his property and his nest egg. He commented that PSE is trying to fast track this and push it through. He stated that PSE is used to getting its way and used to being bullies. He urged the City of Bellevue to stand up to them, slow this down, and make them do a full study.

Craig Schaff, 4326 Lake Washington Blvd, Section H, commented that he appreciates the time that all the residents have put into this. He loves living in Bellevue and wants the City to protect him and his investment. He requested more investment from the City to make this right.

Richard Knierim, Bridle Trails, said he lives along B route in north Bellevue. He has appreciated all of the comments on this topic. He stated that his neighborhood wasn't really informed about what was going on here. He commented that the photos along 116th NE are misleading and don't accurately represent the situation. The poles don't look like they are 85 feet, and certainly not 130 feet. It is also shown on the side of the road in WSDOT property, which is not likely. He encouraged Bellevue to take a hard look at everything. The *Seattle Times* article talked about what has been undergrounded as far as 230 kV lines in Seattle. He can see the Seattle skyline from his house and he doesn't see any 90 or 130 foot poles. He hopes Bellevue will continue to be a great progressive community. Also, the *Journal American Medical Association* has an article about the studying the elusive environment in a large scale. This has some pertinent things on the issue of EMR (electromagnetic radiation).

Christina Capella Dugoni, 5652 – 132nd Avenue NE, Bridle Trails, stated that she is a third generation Bellevue resident. She thinks this is a simple case of extortion: "You agree or you will lose power in three years. You have tried to force us to put power underground and you will pay for it at the cost of multiple millions of dollars per square mile. You force underground and we're gonna reach beyond you community people and we're gonna tax all your neighbors and the city at large and all the taxpayers." She commented that they all pay a lot for property taxes and have been good stewards of their land. Bridle Trails, in particular, has been very solicitous of keeping the nature and trees in Bridle Trails. One of the biggest problems with the Bridle Trails proposal is the two natural gas lines that are within feet of the massive power lines that are going to double or triple in size. She commented that in approximately 2009 her family was out of power for over 13 days during an ice storm. Her mom finally purchased a generator because they were all in subzero temperatures. Two years ago, she mistakenly drove her tractor through a road on her property where PSE had illegally placed a guy wire off of the easement and onto another 30 feet into her property. She took down two high voltage power poles which fell on her tractor leaving the tractor electrified and her trapped until help could arrive. She commented that when the consultant came to fix those two power poles it turned out that the 2009 work was so shabby that they had incorrectly latched together a couple power poles. She was also told that she probably didn't have a case because she didn't lose an arm or her life. She stated that PSE is multi-national

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company that is beholden to its stockholders, not to the residents of the City of Bellevue. She is horrified that they are proposing power lines that are 12 stories tall. They certainly degrade home values and cause industrial blight in one of the most pristine areas of Bellevue. She urged the City to hire an independent consultant to review this situation. She thinks there are a lot of viable routes to put underground pipes. She also suggested a class action suit.

Lisa Taylor, 107 - 118th SE, Unit 8, Segment F, stated she lives in a largely commercial and high industrial area. She stated that apartment owners are also impacted by this proposal, but the City is not hearing from them because they are not property owners. She asserted that Bellevue has been heavily hit by carrying the burden of transmission power for the entire region. There are lines around Lake Washington, along Lake Sammamish, two sets through the central city areas, and a third potential set proposed. She cares about all the cities affected by this and hopes that as the lead agency Bellevue will live up to the residents' expectations of being a leader and taking care of all of these people. She pointed out that she thinks there is more of this coming. This is a precedent that the City is setting in doing this. The Bonneville Power Administration is already carrying capacity on the City of Seattle lines. She'd like to have the City take a look at what the answer is, not just for this area, but also for the region with an eye toward what's to come. She asked why Bonneville isn't getting together with Seattle City Light and PSE to come up with one solution that gives us an answer for 50-60 years plus so we don't have to go through this again. She urged everyone to think about the fact that if these go in, it doesn't matter which route they are, they will be seen from every building in the downtown corridor.

Howard Katz (again) said he grew up in the Bronx. He commented that during the Great Depression the City of New York made the subway company and the electric company put them underground. That's what the City of Bellevue needs to do.

Staff Comments:

Mike McCormick Huentelman stated that the Council had asked for community input and people came out to express their concerns. He thanked everyone for their input. A summary of these comments will go to Council on June 16 for their study. Written comments can still be submitted online on the City's website. He encouraged everyone to get their comments in by Friday to be able to be included in the report going to Council on the 16th.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

The video of the public speaking is posted at http://www.bellevuewa.gov/electrical-facilities.htm

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WRITTEN COMMENTS

At the Community Forum, written input was received by topics:

- Community Engagement
- Neighborhood Character
- Public Health
- Environmental Impacts
- Alternatives to Consider
- Need for Expanded Capacity
- General Comments
- Questions

Topic: Community Engagement

General

1. Desire more "transparency" in the process
2. Does exclusion build cohesion or even the best solution?
3. Completely understand the need for the increase capacity that this project will provide. Yet this process seemed to be kept from the general public. The process should be very transparent from start to finish. What alternatives have been looked @ have we or can we partner with Seattle City Light?

City of Bellevue

1. Appreciate the City is providing this opportunity to communicate
2. Appreciate the City of Bellevue's process. I hope & wish it continues. PSE has been pitting neighborhoods against each other.
3. Community notification and outreach has been poor to non-existent, especially to impacted residents. Process for public comment and dialog is not representative of community.
4. Great effort on providing forums like these to get input from the community….Only thing I could think of is to make sure communications are sent out more frequently including different languages in order to be as inclusive as possible.
5. I am very pleased to have the Bellevue City Council involved. All alternatives need to be considered, not just the ones that meet with PSE approval.
6. I would appreciate being kept informed of any City meetings open to the public in advance much as possible, (with clear agendas and times in advance) to help our families coordinate getting to the meetings.
7. I'd like to thank the Bellevue City Council for asking for community engagement when it effects so many neighborhoods. I appreciate that comments and conversation are encouraged.
8. Need the City of Bellevue to take a strong stance to keep our City beautiful, put the wires where there is the least impact to ruining our environment
9. Please help residents with modern day alternatives that make sense for COB
10. The public is spending hard earned free time to voice opinions of the tax payer. COB needs to listen.
11. Uncertain on COB role. How does COB want input?
12. We appreciate that City of Bellevue has organized the communities to hear more details and give us all a voice.
13. Why was the council involved so late in the process? Why were some neighborhoods involved so late? Does not instill trust or confidence.

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Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Community Engagement (cont.)

PSE Outreach Process

1. After attending a meeting with PSE, I was very disappointed. It was apparent that PSE had made up their minds about what they planned to do and the input from the audience was irrelevant. The information the community wanted to know was what all the other options were and do we really need that much more power, or are they setting up for their future and selling power further afield?
2. I felt that the PSE information page was slanted toward overhead lines without pointing out the benefits of underground lines. They mention that overhead lines are easier to fix -true- but they fail to mention that overhead lines fail at a much higher rate than underground lines.
3. How much do Kemper Freeman, Howard Wright and others pay to contribute to power infrastructure for the projects that make them millions - now at our expense? No PSE executive has shown up at any public meeting. They are cowards hiding behind hired consultants.
4. I'm happy to see the city council becoming engaged. PSE's "public outreach" process has been awful. The "Community Advisory Groups" do not have representatives from every affected neighborhood. There are other representatives who don't live near the lines. Alternatives were eliminated without our input.
5. It is irresponsible to limit the options to an overhead route with little explanation as to why other options were discarded and then create a sham public engagement process designed to make neighborhoods fight with each other.
6. It is very flawed. The process in which routes were to be measured pits neighborhood against neighborhood. Somerset with their huge HOA has built in communications to get the word out and summons their membership into a very loud voice, yet they don't do so objectively. Meanwhile, other neighborhoods that don't have HOA's find out well into the process and are sharing info via word of mouth. I appreciate the Council getting involved. I heard PSE speak @ the Council meeting and was really disappointed by the 1/2 truths they shared. I'm afraid they will never offer up the whole truth w/out you already knowing the answer.
7. PSE CAG process complete disaster. The CAG process only served PSE. No real input from residence. Only talk about topics PSE wanted to talk about. PSE is not interested in the peoples opinion because it conflicts with their plan to build a 230 KV line.
8. PSE CAG process is flawed. Many neighborhoods don't know about Energize Eastside. The route segment scoring data is meaningless. This data was not normalized for sample size by neighborhood. The loudest neighborhoods were favored. PSE has not demonstrated the necessity for this project. Bellevue independent study by Exponent shows in 1% annual growth PSE is using a 2.3% growth for demonstrating the need.
9. PSE has not been transparent with respect to the case for additional high transmission lines nor its review of alternatives other than the route alternatives for additional lines. Bellevue residents deserve to have this information if it is going to be asked to bear a disproportionate burden of this project.
10. PSE system is flawed, data is inaccurate, by their admission. They now want to blind the members so they don't know which data is for which route and have them pick a route based on inaccurate data. They keep changing the rules.

Input & Feedback Received

11. The PSE public outreach seemed more lip service than actual outreach. They seemed to have made up their minds and add these hideous structures and would not at all be swayed to any other options. Their presentation was disingenuous, to say the least.
12. The PSE website felt to me like this was a "done deal" and that SCL said "no" and so we are going with either "L" or "M"

Topic: Neighborhood Character

Bellevue

1. Bellevue - the City within a Park. Parks don't have 230kv transmission lines running through them. The BNSF corridor is a natural beauty awaiting a trail to make access easier. Transmission lines would canopy this park like setting for the entire length of it. PSE did not consider this because it wasn't designated as such on the map. Don't let them destroy the vision of a world class urban trail by covering it with transmission lines.
2. Increasing size and footprint of lines is a scar to the landscape. This is inconsistent with COB growth mgt plan which states that aesthetics is important and that the character of neighborhoods is important. We located in Bellevue because it is "beautiful view". COB leadership needs to show that this is the city we all want.
3. Completely incompatible with the neighborhood scale. Totally a blight. Use new technology to underground. Comp plan vision for 2035 is not this image of 10-12 story structures.
4. Bellevue does not want to look like Detroit. Industrial blight damages neighborhoods and economic business development. Our legacy for the next 50 years must be one that values families, parks, the environment and parks/trails systems. We have an opportunity to create a legacy of an uninterrupted trail system that rivals the treasured Burke Gilman Trail. The eastside rail corridor is one of a kind meant to abide by the Federal Trails Act.
5. Bellevue is a beautiful city and much investment has been put into parks, roadways, etc. to make it that way. Having 130 ft industrial power lines for the rest of Bellevue's future will destroy the character of Bellevue. The decision is forever, so every option must be studied by the City and independently before any decision is made.
6. Bellevue is a remarkable city - it does not have an ugly side. Rich and poor areas all have beautiful landscaping. There is no inner city blight. I hope that no poor neighborhoods are made ugly by giant electrical towers. Ugliness creates crime, I believe.
7. Bellevue needs to pay close attention to how unattractive infrastructure will impact the legacy of all public works investments made so far. Nobody wants to be the one who leaves a legacy life the Seattle Alaska viaduct in the City of Bellevue. There are parks under the viaduct, they cost the same as other parks but are irrelevant because what's over them. Don't let this happen in Bellevue! If Mercer Island has lids over 1-90, we can certainly make PSE bury their transmission lines in our city.
8. It is astonishing that a city like Bellevue that prides itself on such high ideals can allow massive industrial blight - even 3rd world countries are putting underground lines. Other states and cities are doing that. Why can't we?
9. I've achieved my goal of owning a home in Bellevue, I'm a native Washington resident I've just completed my dreams of living in this community to get away from the blight of poor city planning at the cost of character…Please save Bellevue and residents!

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Topic: Neighborhood Character (cont.)

10. PSE is concerned about keeping the lights on - we appreciate that. But as residents of Bellevue, we are committed to preserving our neighborhoods as places for neighbors, not as a major electric line corridor. As elected members of Bellevue's City Council, we request that you exercise your authority and ask that PSE, explore other wired and non-wired options for this electrical infrastructure. We request that these additional options be included in the initial Environmental Impact Statement. We are encouraged by the guidelines set out in Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan regarding utilities: particularly that as stated "it is also important to ensure that new and expanding electrical facilities are sensitive to neighborhood character.
11. This is the City of Bellevue - not Merde-vue. This is out of character for our city. We've worked hard to build it well, keep it beautiful and solve tough problems.

Neighborhoods

1. Please follow the Planning/Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan to "ensure that new and expanding electrical facilities be sensitive to neighborhood character"
2. This is a multi-generational decision. Overhead power lines will create and sustain industrial blight in our neighborhoods for generations to come. Alternative solutions such as undergrounding and sub-marine must be seriously considered.
3. I am very concerned that the huge overhead power lines will destroy the character of our neighborhood. I hope that the City government leaders can help to preserve the Bellevue skyline surrounded by the natural beauty of lakes and the cascades. Having the tall, unsightly power lines and tower will leave a scar through the heart of our community.
4. 12-15 story power pole in the middle of a 2 story neighborhood? Yes this will destroy the character. Bellevue means beautiful view. How many residence think a 13 story power pole is beautiful?
5. 13 - story poles will completely change the residential feeling of our neighborhood. The line of tall poles will be visible from many parts of Bellevue. Is this really a 21st century solution?
6. A huge wire will not only look awful, be dangerous and it will reduce property value of my home. We have a beautiful neighborhood. Please leave it that way.
7. I chose to live in Eastgate because of the lovely vegetation, large Doug firs, and other native trees, and wonderful neighbors. The visual calm of our tree canopy is threatened by these enormous power lines through our neighborhood.
8. I don't want these Industrial lines in anybody's backyard. Go south an hour or so and see these for yourself. The ones I saw were along a major arterial, and they still looked too big and out of place….
9. Allowing such significant changes to dense, well established neighborhoods is bound to negatively affect them. The City is the only body that can realistically protect our neighborhoods. It should require PSE to be forthcoming about exactly why it is necessary to burden Bellevue neighborhoods in this way.
10. Large poles like these should not be routed through residential neighborhoods. These poles are significantly larger than anything currently in these neighborhoods.
11. Lower property values, impact views

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Neighborhood Character (cont.)

12. Neighborhoods should be focused on families rather than having the look of an industrial area with 130 foot towers with high voltage wires close to our schools, pools and not to the pipeline. Most of us live in Bellevue for the community feel and nice neighborhoods.
13. M route - taller poles increase impact on all who see it. L route - create a new corridor that will depreciate the values on a whole new group of homes. Place many homes in the fall zone or 130 ft poles threatening sale-ability. SCL - existing similar sized poles. Please ask for an independent needs assessment.
14. The proposed tall towers will affect the neighborhoods property values because of the blight. If they are meant to serve the public, the public ought to share in the cost incurred by a few hundred houses in the neighborhood.
15. There is a reason all of our neighborhood utilities are underground. You won't see a power line, telephone pole or cable line (except the one PSE line) There is a reason it was designed that way and why we didn't take the easy way out.
16. There is no reason in the 21st century that this blight should be introduced to any local residential community. These lines need to be buried as they are in every other 1st world country. This would destroy the value of thousands of primary investments, create ugliness in place of beauty and impact health and wellbeing.
17. New power lines as proposed by PSE will severely impact our property values and our views. I can't imagine how awful they are going to look, 12 story high and 6 ft diameter? Not to mention health hazard.
18. Nice
19. Noise, property values diminished. We don't want it!
20. This project will change: the beauty of our neighborhood, cause noise pollution, lower property values, environmental impact due to loss of tree, health hazard.
21. We moved here for the beautiful views and healthy living and quiet. PSE wants to aid the above lifestyles
22. What can our city government do to prevent PSE from turning prime residential neighborhoods into industrial loading neighborhoods. Your tax base will be significantly affected. There are million dollar homes that will face serious devaluation.
23. What will this do to the property values of our homes? How much nature will need to be removed? How will it affect Coal Creek, our Skyline, etc.?
24. Will completely ruin our views and destroy home values. I'm also concerned about health/safety concerns. This feels like profit over people.
25. Will ruin our views, which is why we moved in.
26. Will the character change, absolutely! We are on an unstable slope where no homeowner can take trees down. This project would decimate our trees endangering our neighborhood. The power lines are dangerous and should be banned above ground!
27. Wires everywhere - time to start burying them to enhance our community.
28. Wires, wires everywhere. It is time to change that look
29. The power lines will reduce property values and create concern for the health and well being of my neighbors.

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Neighborhood Character (cont.)

30. The idea of running high voltage lines on poles is bad. It makes the whole area look "industrial" and it blocks view. People afraid of power lines like this. I can't believe that PSE is trying to do this. They should find a better idea. Not taking advantage from other! I also expect our city will stop PSE from doing this. Modern cities around the world won't allow power lines on poles across the city or residential areas. We won't let PSE do that in Bellevue.
31. These poles will be very ugly. I already have the lines within my views. They are tall enough as is now.
32. We live along the Olympic Pipeline (Section E) The area is known as a quiet, serene area. We back up to a greenbelt-type terrain. There are parks and trails near and under the existing 115kv lines. They make no noise or emit no significant EMFs. The view is somewhat compromised, but not overt.

Bridle Trails

1. Bridle Trails Characteristics: Natural, Environmental, green belt
2. Our Bridle Trails Comp. plan has not deviated in 35 years. The character of our neighborhood is extremely important to us. It has a rural, equestrian character. A huge power line already passes thru our Overlake farm - 60 acres. The financial impact on our property is enormous. We have high end homes across the street from the 18 hole golf course. The power line expansion should go underground or in another neighborhood. We already have a huge gas line that goes thru our property. There was a gas line explosion some years ago up north. PSE has already re-dug their gas line thru our lively farm - 40% grade. This expansion is not safe - and is a huge risk for future home owners - (either single family or multiple family) 6001 condos /770 units is in Redmond to the North of us.
3. The Bridle Trails area is known for its trees and quiet country feel. Above ground power lines would destroy trees, the quiet and safety of houses nearby.

Greenwich Crest – Segment H

1. Growing up in "H" has been a joy - quality of life is excellent - City of Bellevue was and still is ahead of its time. This is why people want to live here! I returned to "H" still desire that "quality" and "uniqueness niche." Please be tenacious and find the right solution for our children and future generations.
2. I live in "H" neighborhood. My house is located on a hill. I've been told to plant trees & shrubs to stabilize my bank. I am very concerned that the removal of 1000 trees will jeopardize the integrity of the hillside I live on. My concern is "landslide" and the impact this human made project could potentially have for PSE, all the power grid and my neighborhood.
3. By clear-cutting all the trees along the H line we are creating a safety concern with our hillside
4. We live on the eastside of Newport shore and back up to railroad tracks. Building these power transformers here would greatly lower property value: weaken hillside along tracks; removal of trees increase traffic noise from 405 freeway

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Topic: Neighborhood Character (cont.)

Lake Lanes

1. Five major projects will shape our Lake Lanes Neighborhood in the coming years: 1. PSE transmission lines 2. Eastside rail corridor 3. I-405 expansion 4. Sound Transit bus rapid transit or light rail 5. Rebuild of the north-south sewer line. That's a lot of public good for our neighborhood to bear
2. High value real estate value will plummet is the solution going to compensate homeowners for the millions in lost property value? Eliminating the 80-90' of trees will leave no natural buffer between freeway and Lake Lanes along the rail corridor.
3. How can you even consider destroying the most beautiful segment of real estate in Bellevue…the Lake Wa shoreline. People moved along the lake to avoid the already existing power line trail. The environment, the beauty, the habitat and the reason people live where they do would be ruined by running a new power line path along Bellevue's most beautiful and unspoiled area. Put the new lines next to the existing one!
4. Q: Did anyone check who the rightful owners of the proposed lake corridor is? A: Homeowners See Haggard Claim.

Somerset

1. I live on Somerset and I cannot believe that PSE is proposing to build a new 10 story high 230 KV in a residential area. In this century when everything is getting smaller in terms of technology, yet our electricity is getting bigger. We are going backward in time.
2. Having power lines that are 140-170 ft will not only ruin our views in Somerset, it will destroy the character. Homes were built around existing power lines - now PSE is willing to destroy the ambiance.
3. Somerset is a very unique neighborhood with unparalleled open views. 170 foot poles would ruin this unique value. Not only for Somerset but for all of Bellevue. This impacts property values and as well tax revenue. So in a way, we would pay for the cost of undergrounding without getting it.
4. Somerset will be affected badly by these higher lines - any lines affect our view and community feel and health - Bellevue beautiful view! Power lines are not!
5. The power lines will be a terrible blight on the Somerset community and will cause significant economic loss to the residents, due to view obstruction. In turn, if current residents leave, property values will diminish and ultimately, Bellevue schools will decline. All of this will lead to a reversal of Bellevue's good fortunes, if people decide to leave the area.
6. Somerset Resident with a small growing family. This will destroy home values, break down our community

Norwood/Woodridge

1. Norwood was founded back in 1952. Back in the early days, all residents paid a significant sum to underground wires, to ensure an uncluttered look to the neighborhood. That was part of the character of Norwood/Woodbridge. It would be detrimental to our neighborhood to add tall poles, more wires, etc. on either side of the SCL lines and/or via the proposed PSE transmission lines.

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Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Neighborhood Character (cont.)

BNSF Trail

1. If/when the rail bed becomes a trail it will be a great park life trail unless it has 230 KV transmission line covering the overhead.
2. It seems a shame to take an opportunity for a rails to trail and put a high power transmission line over it. Although it has been done, it does not make it a great idea or even anywhere close to optimal.
3. Keep the BN RR Path open for trails and future transport. Do not put power poles in the right of way

Topic: Public Health

General Safety Concerns

1. Concerned about wind causing downed power lines, at much higher voltage
2. Do we even know the problems yet?
3. Full due diligence on health effects of 230KV line through residential neighborhoods, schools (TYEE) and public pools
4. Double capacity, do you truly know health effects?
5. Has any study been made on the number of cancer rate in the areas within 40 feet of the power lines? I do know that on one street of 10 homes, six homes have one cancer history. Some deceased, some still living.
6. Electricity and gas don't mix, EMF and people don't mix
7. Health risks: why? (besides $$) Can't this be underground?
8. How loud will the new 230KV lines be?
9. How much noise will be generated from these new lines? How will the new lines effect our children's health?
10. I am concerned with the proposed PSE routes that especially run by community centers, schools. For example, one route goes very near to Tyee Middle School.
11. I am concerned about the health issues associated with the lines and would like full disclosure on studies done to date.
12. I have been unable to research the health effects of 230 kv lines as compared to 115kv. My understanding is that the National Health recommendations is that 230kv should not be within 100 feet of housing. So if PSE installs overhead lines they need a 200 ft easement, which they don't have. I would like to know if this is correct.
13. I am guessing the high voltage lines give off heat - dangers to children? We are learning the effects of Hanford now. We need to be proactive for our communities.
14. I have two poles going through my house right now. One above my roof and another obstructing my view. I have a 4 1/2 years old son and I have afraid for our health in long term. The existing should also be tore down, not build another existing big one.
15. If this was your family and neighborhood, would you want your children to live next to these gigantic poles?
16. I'm very concerned about the health hazards of having high voltage power lines through my back yard. From the lines and loss of trees.

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Public Health (cont.)

17. My understanding is that the studies are not clear but perception is often reality and home values will decrease because of a perceived health risk.
18. The health concerns have not been proven neither that the power lines are safe or not. Why would we take a chance? How many healthy people, parents and kids could be hurt?
19. The lines are too close to homes and cause health effects, real or perceived!
20. The stress this project with the pressure of urgent, devastating impact to our homes and community quality of life is TERRIBLE! Please work together to put these lines and those to come for the 40-50 years underground and not put us through this!
21. There is no research on this amount of power near families
22. Of course this is a concern

Electromagnetic Fields

1. Do we want Bellevue city residents to be guinea pigs in experimentation on EMF?
2. According to the EPA, magnetic fields from power lines "are a possible cause of cancer". There is "Still no definite answer as " to whether or not EMF exposure causes childhood leukemia. I won't take the chance with my kids, and won't ask you to take the chance with yours.
3. EMF continues to be debated. Health issues often surface years later. EMF from increased current/voltage remains a real concern. (Increased noise is also a factor.) I don't know what the REAL truth is about EMF. But PSE and others need to understand that is about perception. If possible home buyers believe EMF is a problem, these 230 kv lines will contribute to lower property values.
4. EMF reports are inconclusive. The effects on humans, wildlife, endangered plants and species, as well as insects (bees) are unknown. Studies are still on-going for adult cancers and childhood leukemia.
5. EMF. Some have been careful to keep new lines away from schools - what about those of us (both children and adults) around the EMF daily/nightly, 24/7?
6. I am concerned about the health effects of EMF. Dismissing health concerns, as PSE has done, is eerily similar to the dismissed health concerns of smoking from the 1960's.
7. I am immensely concerned about the closeness of a 230 kv line to our homes, our children, our parks. It has been said a 230 kv line emits 5x the EMF of the current 115kv.
8. I am a biochemist. I know enough science to know that EMF has an effect on human health, because our bodies are bio-electric units. I can't imagine EMF not having an effect on our health. When you look at the research, please, please look at independent studies, not industry sponsored studies.
9. I worry about EMF & health concerns for my small, growing children. I bet we would hear buzzing from lines. This feels like profit over people. PSE just wants the power supply to California & other States other than Washington. How much will we have to pay for PSE to profit?
10. I'm not sure EMF is a problem, but it matters what most people think. Parents don't want their kids in schools next to high voltage power lines. Homebuyers don't want to buy a home next to them. They will hurt our community one way or another

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Public Health (cont.)

11. Regardless of the study you choose, there is documented impact of EMF on increased childhood leukemia - why increase this risk? The 120' towers pose a physical hazard to our safety in a seismic zone prone to 9-10.0 earthquakes every 500-1500 years. It has been over 1500 years since the earthquake hit that caused the south end of Mercer Island slide into Lake Washington....
12. SCL Alternate affects far more residences with electromagnetic fields. Against SLC alternative.
13. The epidemiological literature shows that there is some risk with increased EMF. This is shown in particular with childhood leukemia. PSE and experts paid by the electrical industry can find studies that use statistics to minimize risk. COB needs to protect its citizens from any risk. Any risk is too much. Our children are our greatest resource that we need to protect. Why increase EMF along lines when there are alternatives that lesson risk??

1. Undergrounding completely eliminates EMFs that are a public health concern.
2. We all know high power lines generate electric magnetic wave and field that affect electronic devices. Animals are sensitive to the electromagnetic field too. Most people don't want to risk their health living close to high power lines on poles.
3. What about the unknown effects of EMF? What about the noise?
4. While there is no conclusive evidence that power lines cause health issues, those studies were all done at 500 meters, not 100 feet. There is a correlation between high voltage power lines and childhood leukemia. Against studies done at 500 meters.
5. What about EMF effect. PSE website stated that there is no study that shows EMF has any harm to our health. What kind of research did they get? How can such powerful electricity not have any effect on our health?

Olympic Pipeline

6. If I understood correctly, PSE says double lines will be needed on either side of the Olympic pipeline. So along the side of Tyee Middle School, they are proposing a pair of parallel 12 story power lines, in close proximity to the pipeline. NO
7. Do we want jet fuel pipeline accidents in the middle of our City - this is true at least for Somerset & Bridle Trails.
8. Dear Council Members, The public safety issue has not been properly addressed. On our 60 acre Overlake Farm, the old power line goes N to S through our farm. A few feet away is the explosive gas line that exploded some years ago. The gas line carries jet fuel to Sea Tac airport. Put the expansion of the power line to the West which runs through the state park. No houses there. Away from the gas line.
9. The health risks to Somerset, of the imagined power lines and the pipeline, in the event of an emergency, are vast. A large earthquake would devastate the area with both the pipeline and the power lines putting the Bellevue community at extreme risk. Additionally, the EMF exposure would be an increased risk to residents as well.
10. We are concerned about the high voltage on our families, our animals and birds. Not only does our house have the power lines running behind our home - in the front we have the Puget Sound Olympic Pipeline. We have organized our neighborhoods for Emergency Preparedness should there be an earthquake. A real concern is, electricity combined with natural gas.

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Greenwich Crest – Section H

11. As part of section H, I'm seriously concerned to the risk of major activity in a seismic area. Shouldn't surround the neighborhoods which border a fault line. I'm worried for the safety of my family & neighbors. If/when any seismic or other "trigger" either causes a landslide or with seismic activity potential risk to a dense community or damaged/fallen on 230KV lines. The study done in 2005 puts a fault less than .25 miles from substation and utility with a protected elevation gain of 6.5 feet. Please protect us!
12. Section H: Hillside integrity along rail corridor. Very concerned about impact on public health of proposed PSE route along rail corridor. Houses on top of the hill (East) could fall and cause damage to our family, property and safety.
13. Who is kidding who? These high voltage power lines are dangerous to humans, animals, wildlife, our environment, etc. These type of power lines belong underground or under water only. Also, 1/2 our community sits on unstable slope. Residents cannot cut down trees. Yet you would consider allowing a public utility to come in and clear cut 100' of trees out along the power lines? Endangering the slope. Puget power can put them underground or underwater!
14. While there is a lot of debate about EMF, the big health issue is the risk of landslides in section "H" If routed through section H, PSE will clear nearly 1000 trees in just over a mile of the corridor. These trees help hold the hillside in place. Without those trees (and they won't be allowed to grow) the risk of landslides goes up. The City has designated this a protected hillside for decades and homeowners are not allowed to disturb it. Yet PSE would come in and use their tariff as justification to clear cut this area. One landslide could easily swallow up the condos below and have a huge impact and death toll. The City of Bellevue cannot afford this liability.

Topic: Environmental Impact

General

1. Please only approve a PSE plan that is compliant with the existing City of Bellevue land use ordinance specifically Policy UT-39 and Policy UT-71
2. Bellevue and its residents can do better than 100 year old technology of wires on poles so a private company can profit by shipping power throughout city. These routes touch thousands of homes, four of our schools, and at least two hospitals. Bellevue doesn't need a gigawatt of power at our expense.
3. Even though I'm a Councilmember, I'm a citizen too. I would like to have a tandem push for energy conservation in our City. Looking at the latest technology, how can we all join together to reduce our energy needs?
4. I can't even imagine! This is horrendous!!
5. I live adjacent to the 115v lines in segment C. Doubling the voltage will be much louder, and a constant buzz - compared to the current installation. I bought the house with my eyes open but doubling the voltage is a huge change in use.
6. I would like to see independently (not PSE) drafted Environmental Impact Statements for all routes prior to a decision being made.
7. It worries me. We need an independent study on this.
8. The impact of the expanded power line next to the jet fuel gas line is a totally against the Comprehensive Plan.

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Environmental Impact (cont.)

Noise

1. 230 kv lines are extremely noisy and crackling. Not conducive to our lives along the Olympic Pipeline trail.
2. 230 kv lines are known to be significantly loud, with a consistent 'hum' and crackling. The wildlife in our greenbelt area will be compromised.
3. The noise will destroy serenity and people's enjoyment of their properties and affect wildlife.

Trees and Wildlife

1. How wide will they clear trees?
2. Many trees will need to be cut to put in the large towers. What happens to the birds, the deer? Will Bellevue look like an industrial area rather than a lovely community to live in?
3. The loss of trees will impact the wildlife at the back of our house.
4. This will require significant removal of trees and destruction of habitat. Best practices must be followed for any solution.

Greenwich Crest: Section H

1. "H" line along the RR tracks - steep, wet and unstable - can't afford to upset the stability of the hillside by removing trees & shrubs. Possibility for a landslide if greatly disrupted.
2. "H" neighborhood. Lived in the area since the 1950's. I personally witnessed trees coming down and several properties incurred slides when they terraced their properties. I am very concerned with landslide as tree removal make no sense when trying to stabilize hillsides.
3. Aside from the visual aspects of the H segment, my house is directly above the train track with a steep slope down. The only thing holding that slope is trees
4. Clear cutting 1000 trees in section H will affect the stability of the steep slope bordering the RR, It will also impact the east side of the RR in section H with its denseness, steep slopes.
5. Don't clear our trees! We are very concerned with landslides as tree removal. We are also near a major fault line. (Segment H)
6. Group H is quite worried about the environmental impact on our hillside when 1000 trees are removed to put in lines. This will inevitably destabilize the hillside and could possibly lead to a landslide and loss of life.
7. Group H is very concerned about our hillsides integrity and what will happen with the clear cutting of almost 1000 trees that hold up our hillside. We are worried that all this human activity is going to increase the chance of a landslide.
8. Group H is very concerned about our hillside's integrity and what will happen with the clear cutting of almost 1000 trees that hold up our hillside. We are worried that all this human activity is going to increase the chance of a landslide.
9. Hillside Integrity from along the rail corridor! (section H) We live in Lake Washington Blvd SE (inside the rail corridor) We are very concerned about the impact on the hillside which give way and increase risk of landslides and damage to our family, property. Fragile ecosystem along the rail corridor.

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Environmental Impact (cont.)

10. Greenwich Crest, Section H 1) unstable slope! 2) Proven danger of powerlines to humans (particularly fetuses), unhealthy for all living and breathing organisms
11. I am concerned about the environmental impact of this project. Specifically the impact on segment H. Much of this area is considered a critical steep bank of sloped land. Disturbing this property, including removing trees, could make the hillside unstable and landslides could occur, causing homes to slide down the hill.
12. I live in Greenwich Crest, where PSE "H" line run by. Group "H" is very concerned about our hillside integrity and what will happen with the clear cutting of almost 1000 trees that hold up our hillside. We are worried that all this human activity is going to increase the risk of landslide.
13. I live on Greenwich Crest and very concerned over the critical hill side where the power lines are being proposed. The City for years has blocked any work or tree cutting and now a proposal is being made to risk the hillside with possible slides to make way for power lines that may not be needed until way in the future. What assurance can be made to retain the integrity of the hill is so many trees need to be cut?
14. Section H is all along a protected hillside that the property owners are not allowed to disturb. PSE will remove nearly 1000 trees over 4" in diameter over a 1.3 mile length. This will put the hillside and the homes on top and underneath at risk. Don't let an OSO happen here.
15. Section H. PSE will have to clear a path 100' feet wide. They will be removing trees (over 900 in 1.3 miles) This will create landslide issues as well as removing habitat for Eagles, Deer and other wildlife.
16. Section H. Very sensitive - wet - steep slopes cannot tolerate the removal of trees and vegetation.
17. Section H: Group H is very concerned about our hillsides integrity and what will happen with clear cutting. Also it is near a major fault line.
18. I am concerned about the hillside behind my home. It is an environmentally critical area and the damage of removing 1000s of trees will damage the steep slope. The potential of hillside problems will increase with the construction and continual maintenance of the towers. I think that OSO should be a warning to us all.
19. Save our hillside from a landslide! Don't remove our 1000 trees!
20. This project by PSE has been a total disregard of Health and Safety with respect to the planning of H link in particular. H link is a steep cliff like hillside. The geomorphology and lidar mapping shows a historical predisposition toward landslide due to glacial till soils. To add to that, the hill is situated on the south side of I90 and the Seattle fault line - making this area a safety hazard for any development like this. Overall, the significant trees and vegetation to be lost - some 1000 is insane to think that the homes above and below the proposed rail line will suffer the potential of loss of life and loss of property value if our hill becomes yet another "Oso" Stop this plan before it is too late.
21. Looking at surrounding areas, in my case it's Mercer Slough, there are education programs that take children around and discuss how important it is to conserve and protect nature. Why is it then that having a high voltage power line going through a corridor that is now home to wildlife? What message does that send? Moreover, what wildlife is being

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Environmental Impact (cont.)

destroyed? What plan is in place to aid in the structural soundness of the hill along the corridor after the removal of 1000 large trees? If a retaining wall is built, how will that stand up in an earthquake? Because growing up in Southern California, I have zero confidence in a wall standing, as well, let alone hold back liquefied soil that goes hand-in-hand with earthquakes. - Greenwich Crest Resident

Bridle Trails

1. 116th Bridle Trails: 687 tall mature trees would be taken down. Noise pollution, air quality - carbon dioxide, wild life and people.
2. Bridle Trails, 1) Can we lesson the EI by exploring the burying options? 2) How are home owners compensated for the additional wires and voltage which was not in our original easements?
3. We in Trails End (Bridle Trails) have bald eagles and golden eagles flying and landing in the corridor that PSE wants to put in place. We already have 7-8 lines and a gas line and then w/a gas line - and you PSE wants to increase? This will diminish the property values. We are paying for the Bellevue Council to protect us. Please realize this is detrimental to any and all of us close to the corridor.

Lake Lanes & BNSF Trail

1. A new corridor (BNSF) would have to be cleared to 100' wide or wider if they followed "best practices". This would remove in 1.3 miles, almost 1000 trees 4" in diameter and larger. These trees are home to all kinds of wildlife and birds, including bald eagles, hawks, herons and others.
2. Clear cutting the greenbelts along the ERC is irreversible and destroys the environment for raptors, deer and us!
3. Lake Lanes corridor involves clearing 80-90' trees next to water. Shoreline and salmon protection strongly advises against clearing native growth of this sort for erosion. Come see the eagles that nest in the tree next to the water on the rail/lake lane corridor.
4. Seattle Public Utilities own documentation on protecting salmon habitat advises protecting native vegetation to protect erosion. PSE corridor on Lake Lanes would involve clearing 80-90' of trees next to the shore.
5. Save the RR for trail system. No power poles on our right of way.
6. Thousands of Eagle and Red tail Hawks nesting and perch trees will be removed - come to Lake Lanes Neighborhood and we will show you!
7. The removal of over 3600 trees along the "L" route would be devastating. Just yesterday I observed two bald eagles nesting in trees along the "L" route. These trees would be lost to PSE's proposed route.

Newport Shores

1. Newport Shores is entirely on fill. We have 65 feet of pilings under our home to support it in the event of an earthquake. Liquidification is a real possibility. What would happen in the event of an earthquake with these towers so close or bordering on our property particularly with Greenwich Crest and the concern of a hillside giving way just above Newport Shores.

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Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Environmental Impact (cont.)

2. How will this affect the bald eagle nest in the Newcastle Park and Newport Shores? Leave the trees and brush, don't need a landslide in my backyard.

Somerset

1. Somerset has natural springs in the hillside that are impacted by construction projects. Who is liable for the results of the rerouting of these when they cause shifts and flood homes?
2. The power poles are aesthetically ugly and imposing. The City of Bellevue is a beautiful place to live which is why my parents moved here in 1961 and why my husband and I chose to live in Somerset in 1983.

Wilburton

1. W. Wilburton. Devastating to our E City Skyline. Manufacturing specs show towers/poles 135', minimum for 230 kv. Have you seen photos of these things? All buildings downtown will see these across the skyline 10-12 stories or higher than zoning allows for area. Thousands of people will view these daily and consider them as a part of our city. This is not the Eastside.

Topic: Alternatives to Consider

General

1. This is 21st century. We should not go backward. No modern city has overhead cables.
2. Build somewhere else. Traffic is bad. Density going up. More power means both get worse.
3. Consider/study need, don't depend on PSE studies. Bury any new lines if installed, consider battery banks.
4. We need much more time to explore alternatives AND is it necessary?
5. Moratorium on building permits until PSE claims are independently verified. This is an option/alternative. Federal intervention: This is a foreign owned corporation willing to compromise US standards. PSE says they will build to existing standards, so was the Fukushima Nuclear Plant. Alternative suggested to PSE but repeatedly rejected: Underwater in Lake WA - This is happening now in the San Francisco Bay area and in Lake Champlain in NY State. Giff Battery Storage - despite PSE lack of expertise this is happening. Share corridor of Seattle City Light: PSE has never shown they have followed the existing formal process for this. Undergrounding: PSE is GROSSLY overstating the costs and the entire line wouldn't need to be undergrounded.
6. If the PSE corridor is used, the new towers will seriously impact the view. Since city light towers are already used and tall, <u>couldn't additional wires be added to an existing facility</u>? Also concerned about radiation and noise.
7. Other areas w/o hillsides with homes on top!
8. Our community has CC+TCs restricting construction and vegetation that interferes with community views. It seems that a "guest" on our properties - as PSE is, should also be required to abide by those same CGR's as their host property owners. (Love - solar roadways idea)

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Topic: Alternatives to Consider (cont.)

9. Per City of Bellevue comprehensive plan policy UT-71 is all new distribution systems required to be underground? How is PSE going to get permit approval for a above ground transmission line for a new 230KV line?
10. Please consider underground cables (transmission lines); underwater lines, battery power, temporary solutions while new technology is being developed.
11. PSE has not considered all option: 1) poles along 405 2) underground 3) Seattle City Light Corridor 4) Phase it in. Use impact fees to allow a more expensive option 5) Batteries
12. Run a 2nd 500kv line along existing line east of cities. Bring in a line to Lakeside Station if the 3rd transformer is really required. Underground - this is the 21st century. PSE and their Australian parent stand to make billions on this line.
13. Seriously consider route & options with minimal impact to Bellevue neighborhoods. 1. Safety. 2. Character. 3. Alternative technologies to reduce sizing for peak load "normal load" which preserves impact to Bellevue & communities with less cost to residents, cleaner energy acceleration. 4. Other options PSE has avoided - third party consult on under water, underground.
14. We need to consider undergrounding, submarine and conservation. These alternatives need to be considered given the public interest and benefit, not just the financial cost.

Alternative Routes

1. I-90 corridor above ground
2. Alternative routes such as no new lines through residential Bellevue and tapping into City Light 230 kv line east of Lake Sammamish and install a line along I90 - all alternative routes need to be explored including underground lines.
3. Can this project go up I405 and not affect backyards, nature, natural sound barriers, etc.
4. I have been a homeowner in Bellevue for 20+ years with the last 12 in the Somerset neighborhood. While I appreciate the work that the Cense group has done to explore alternatives to overhead wires I feel strangely that if a wired solution is the only alternative then routes favoring industrial/commercial corridors should be selected over residential neighborhoods. Specifically, I would encourage both the CAG and the Bellevue city council to express a preference for route "I" (Factoria BLVD) Over route "J" Somerset residential neighborhood.
5. Please consider other options (wired & non-wired) and get them into the EIS - early on. ie…BP corridors east of Lk Sammamish to link to lake side, ie…submerged. ie: talk with City of Seattle/Seattle City Light to coordinate upgrades to power grid.

Undergrounding

1. When we look back on the cost of undergrounding the lines, the lines will look like a bargain and the City will look, and be, better off. No matter which path is chosen, above ground lines will a large environmental cost on a small group of our citizens for something that, in theory, benefits everyone of us. There will also be financial costs, lower property values, for this same small group. It would, effectively, be a very high tax.

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Alternatives to Consider (cont.)

2. We would like to have all alternatives presented; not summarily be told "undergrounding won't work."
3. Underground.
4. Underground
5. Absurd to expect the neighborhoods to bear the cost of putting lines underground. PSE should pay this, or come up with innovative alternatives. It is part of their business cost. This is 2014 - there must be alternatives to horrific poles and overhead lines. PSE - hire people who can innovate.
6. Bury the lines or build them through non-residential areas as much as possible, burying the lines in the smaller patches of residences.
7. Underground cabling
8. I am disappointed that PSE has not presented any options for underground or "underlake" to the community with associated costs.
9. I am in section H and I am very concerned about the stabilization of our hill after tonight. I am concerned about the city of Bellevue. I say put the power underground. Just say no. Nobody wants these very powerful towers around. The need seems to be a lie! If they are making more money by selling the power then spend some money for a good solution for our neighbors. I run 7 companies and I always have problems and I always find solutions that are a win-win
10. Underground
11. Let's put the lines underground like the Olympic Pipeline. Need to have all the options on the table to make intelligent choices.
12. We all understand the bigger needs for energy. Is there underground solution an option here that is future and good planning.
13. I think the City and the County need to flex their muscle and force undergrounding anywhere new lines would affect views because it does affect property values which in turn will decrease tax revenue for the City and County.
14. If cost of underground routing is such an expense, perhaps alternate in underground where residence are located, beneath ground where purely forests, no view obstructions, residences affected. Battery or burying and placing a bike trail. Keep the Lake's coastline, the recreational attraction for our communities that it is. Build a walk/bike path over buried lines instead.
15. Objective 3rd party estimate of undergrounding lines. Have all possible routes been researched regardless of cost? If undergrounding, all areas benefitting from the expanded capacity should share cost. If business are the largest users, cost should be spread to them. If users in California and Canada are users, also spread the cost. PSE is the profit making company and should bear the most cost.
16. Poles will destroy views & impact health. Underground lines must be considered. Yes, its expensive but it's the right thing to do.
17. PSE board members should live under all these power poles and lines before they ask the public to suffer this health hazard. Underground is preferred but only following ROW already in place
18. Thanks for providing this opportunity to get feedback. Main ask…related to PSE's energize eastside why Bellevue doesn't enforce the undergrounding of all power lines regardless the company and whether or not are existing. That'd be more scalable.

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Alternatives to Consider (cont.)

19. The power lines can go underground. The extra costs are not worth the impact on our livelihoods and health. Will the City of Bellevue do an independent study to find out the additional cost for burying the power lines where they go through properties - rather than take PSE's $$ for granted?
20. Underground cables, shared lines, commercial areas
21. Underground Cables; above ground in non-residential areas; non-view blocking
22. Underground or Seattle City Light
23. Underground, alternative source energy, underwater, use Seattle City Lights Corridor, Conservation - sponsor groups and require people to use less energy
24. Underground, buried the line. Tear down the ugly exiting outdated line and bury it. Bellevue means beautiful view, not ugly industrial City.
25. Underground, underwater, batteries
26. The property along (between) 132nd and 140th will have their values drop dramatically with large power lines along with huge loss of trees (quality). These are not 200K properties - they are million dollar properties. Let's preserve the environment, and health and bury the lines. Cost to PSE is nothing to the loss of values. Can't the lines be buried?
27. Unstable slope! Make PSE put underground or underwater. Safer for all! Per City of Bellevue comp plan policy # UT-71 - all new distribution systems REQUIRED to be underground! What's up City? Why are you considering and not following your plans?

Seattle City Light Corridor

1. Seattle City Light existing 230KV line.
2. SCL
3. I am against the SCL alternative. That straight passes our neighborhood (our house!) the Energize Eastside does not.
4. We are against the SCL alternative. That goes straight through our residential neighborhood, whereas the Energize Eastside proposal does not.
5. I live in Norwood/Woodbridge and am very concerned that other neighborhoods are insisting that the PSE project and related issues can be "solved" by dumping more power on the Seattle City Light lines that run through our neighborhood. Others are suggesting that the SCL lines can be magically buried when all data (PSE and SCL info) indicate that it is cost prohibitive. It's sad that this PSE project is pitting neighborhood against neighborhood. It's just not what many of us who love Bellevue want to see.
6. No Seattle City Light alternative. Passes through far more residential areas, next to elementary schools, over hilltops, aviation hazard, along unpopulated side of 405 with original plan is better
7. PSE and SCL are not engage in using the existing Seattle City Light easement to increase the capacity of current transmission lines. An ideal solution.
8. Seattle City Light power line can and should be upgraded so that both PSE and SCL can transmit needed power to their respective customers. A new line just for PSE or just for SCL cannot be justified.
9. See underground and existing corridor comments in general comments. Why (besides $$) or corporate cooperation can't existing power corridors be used?

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Alternatives to Consider (cont.)

10. SCL must want or need something that we can use as a bargaining tool: access to other areas perhaps for their concerns? It seems a shame to not sit down with them and seriously negotiate about working out a mutually agreeable compromise. I realize that utilities are notorious for their "Fiefdom" mentality and that they do not want to share but it certainly seems that there must be room for negotiation with them. Specifically, I would like to know WHY can't they share?
11. The City of Bellevue should only agree to allow this to be done if it's built along the Seattle City Light corridor. The City should threaten to tie up the permit policy if necessary to lean on PSE.
12. The infrastructure required for 230kv lines is very significant per PSE. New poles would be a disaster for Bellevue, especially Somerset with its views. First option must be to leverage existing infrastructure like Seattle City Lights. Second option must be underground.
13. The materials from PSE give short shrift to its considerations of alternatives. In particular, the Seattle City Light option is not explained. Why is that not available? Is it technically unfeasible or just more expensive?
14. The Seattle City Lights Corridor seems to be the best solution if we can't afford "underground". I understand there are reasons that the city light don't want to work with PSE. However, I can see that only government has position and power to make big parties to work together and minimize losses that could happen to people related to the project. I really hope that our city can make this happen!
15. Use the EXISTING Seattle City Light Corridor - a permit could be given - We want an examination of that corridor
16. Using Seattle City Light right of way needs much more push. Undergrounding will only become more expensive in the future so do it now. Battery technology is moving quickly. Remember PSE is a profit making organization.

Submerging

1. Underwater Lk Washington
2. Marine
3. Nobody talked about the underwater option. There is no digging necessary.

New Technologies

1. Increase battery storage/alternate energy facilities
2. Battery storage - solar would be a nice little plus
3. Solar, wind, conservation programs, etc.
4. Every few years PSE updates power lines in anticipation of growth in the area stating that our current systems are no longer enough to support the growth/demand. Along with these statements comes the following (roughly) "This improvement will provide better energy and ultimately a better future for residents." So, why aren't other energy options being considered? Wind, water? Carbon trees that capture carbon and convert it into energy (actual thing) - you could offer cap & trade option to get better revenue. Or solar windows (30% effective on a overcast day) If you actually want to improve our future, invest in and actively pursue a better system instead of constant revision to an antiquated system.

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Alternatives to Consider (cont.)

5. Solar Roadways! Google it! Lines under Lake Washington?
6. Strongly recommend enhancing storage at existing substations to allow time for technology and innovation to improve conservation efforts. Other states have had much success with increased storage and may be able to reduce existing power lines, not increase them.
7. There are many forward thinking cities in California, Hawaii, even New York City, who are looking at peak load solutions such as batteries and distributed generation. We are an innovative and environmentally conscious community. Why would we eliminate every alternative for a last-century solution? Our children and grandchildren will be looking at these 13 story poles and wonder what we were thinking.

Topic: Need for Expanded Capacity

General

1. I am not convinced that this is necessary for maintaining our power supply.
2. Moratorium - take more time for such an important decision, allow for smarter choices
3. I'm not an expert, I'm a mom trying to raise a growing family in a safe environment
4. Concerns are electric cars (more demand) and more air conditioners (more demand) Wont we need more capacity?
5. How is the neighborhood compensated for the increased height, additional wires & greater voltage exposure?
6. Somewhere else!!
7. Tough luck, send it some other way!

Capacity for who?

1. From what I understand 25% of the expected growth is from Bellevue yet Bellevue gets a very large share of the blight from both of the major routes.
2. How much capacity will Bellevue receive? How much goes to others, Canada, CA, etc? Build underground and pass the cost on to others, ie. Canada.
3. I am concerned about tall power lines adjacent to homes. Noise, radiation, ugly. Expansion should be underground. If this is to sell to Canada, Canadians should pay for it.
4. For who? If some needed, use alternative sources. Battery like Snohomish, NY, Hawaii
5. if the expanded need is to service the unprecedented growth of business and commerce west of I405, why do the neighborhoods on the eastside have to bear the brunt of the noise, loss of property value, loss of views, and neighborhood blight. If industry is causing the shortage of power, than industrial, not residential, areas should have the power poles.
6. I'm sure more capacity is needed. I'm worried that certain neighborhoods are taking the "hit" for the larger region. I know downtown Bellevue is growing, but I don't believe the developers would want 130 foot towers next to their hotels or shopping centers - although they are requiring more energy.
7. This project is about profits for transmission of energy between British Columbia and California - at our expense. With no compensation for easements, impact on neighborhoods or property values that decline when these monstrosities appear.

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Need for Expanded Capacity (cont.)

8. What percent of the energy will be sold to Canada
9. What is the real capacity needed for a city the size of Bellevue in 10 years? What have other cities done to meet electrical needs? Does Bellevue need the maximum amount of electricity a new 210 lines brings? Is this really only for our community or does the "region" benefit as well? What is considered the "region"? Why shouldn't the region also bear the cost?
10. Who benefits? What % of customers served by this new infrastructure are in Bellevue? What % in WA?
11. Who is the line for? How much is it for the Bellevue community?
12. Who says it is needed or does PSE and its shareholders just want it?
13. Why are we even entertaining the idea of allowing PSE to pump 1,000,000 households worth of electricity through our neighborhood for their profit? We gain nothing from the project. We won't need all that power or even 10% of it to meet our growth needs, which might better be met with conservation efforts.

Independent Analysis

1. I also question the need for additional capacity but I am not a power expert. It would be good to have some external group (not PSE) validate this need.
2. There needs to be independent verification of PSE's capacity forecasts, as well as, to do upside and downside cases on their forecasts, so the community can truly understand how significant the needs are - or if we even need additional capacity at all.
3. We haven't been able to verify PSE's claims about our needs, because there are national security restrictions. We also don't know how they projected future demand but their assumptions seem to be higher than Bellevue's projections. We need clear verification.
4. Who knows? We need an independent study. Why not use new power storage technology and eliminate the need for all new lines?
5. Why is it an immediate emergency now? Existing data does not adequately justify expansion. Hire an outside network specialist to evaluate need independently.
6. 3rd Party verification and analysis of PSE need for additional capacity needs

Desire for more data

1. Can we please see the fully disclosed load & options to reduce "peak" to "normal" load and prevent any impact to community. If we use modern technology does it really need to require massive utility (new)? Can we utilize our current grid more effectively? Need the real truth of why we can't rebuild, partner with other utilities, etc. There should be some sort of governmental process for public services? It seems as if PSE is not going through our process on alternatives that I mentioned as a layman & options that a consulting firm or multiple firms would provide.
2. Ordinance 5802 talks about future needs. Do these numbers concur with their new numbers? This ordinance also shows planned growth in the existing transmission corridor and no mention of the BNSF corridor. If there is going to be a change to the master plan

Input & Feedback Received

Topic: Need for Expanded Capacity (cont.)

there should be a lot more time than the 1 year period of discussion before possible permitting this route.

3. PSE needs to detail and produce documentation on how much added capacity is needed by downtown Bellevue, Redmond, and the other cities. How much is to be shipped elsewhere? If the downtown needs the capacity, let the downtown have the higher lines, let them bear the burden rather than the already built out suburbs.
4. PSE says the life of this project is to meet capacity for 13 years. Really? Are they that short term? Or is the need over-stated so they had to work their numbers and landed at a 13 year time frame. They should be building capacity for a 25 year capacity minimum.
5. We are entitled to see the data that support PSE's claim that more capacity is needed locally - capacity that requires the massive proposed lines and poles! I am not comfortable accepting PSE's word on this. They are a for profit entity. They want to make money, first and foremost. Where will this electricity go?

Topic: General Comments

General

1. Bellevue needs to lead on this. Let's work on a good solution and then collaborate with PSE on implementing. Stop making neighbors fight each other. Pause, plan and partner for BEST solution for City, PSE and citizens.
2. I am happy we have City Council members who are willing to help and listen to their constituents. The PSE should not be allowed to come in and cause our neighborhoods to be degraded.
3. I am shocked and dismayed to suddenly learn that PSE has the right to put a high power transmission line through my backyard.
4. Let's look to our future and be known as the wonderful community we are and not as an industrial corridor.
5. City of Bellevue has a responsibility to keep their tax paying citizens safe. If the wrong decision is made, who will own that responsibility?
6. How long will this project afflict our neighborhoods. What are contingencies for overages, route problems, etc.?
7. There must be better technology, better aesthetics, and better delivery than power poles through neighborhoods. This ain't the countryside anymore! Bellevue can do better.
8. We are looking to the Bellevue Council to protect us. We are asking you to have PSE reroute their plans. Thank you.
9. Since the buy out of PSE by McQuire Investments in Australia, the transparency of a publically owned company is gone. The officials who allowed this buy out left an unfortunate legacy that has left individual communities to fend for themselves. McQuire's main goal is to make a profit, not make communities more livable. Please keep this in mind as they sing their song and dance requesting for permits.
10. The "public outreach" by PSE was a complete failure, filled with hyperbole, half-truths and condescension. There's no trust gained so the relationship is adversarial.

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Topic: General Comments (cont.)

Recommendations

1. Hire an independent company for city of Bellevue concerns. Do not listen to PSE info…
2. First step - City must enforce an 18 month permit moratorium so acceptable solutions can be found. Second Step: Engage the UTC on rate-base approaches to undergrounding, Third - just say No to 12 story towers and wires through Bellevue neighborhoods.
3. Please do not let PSE build this industrial blight tower
4. Please follow Bellevue Comp. Plan
5. Please get an independent needs assessment. PSE data is unreliable
6. Please reconsider installation of lines in Group H!
7. Please urge PSE to choose a route for the new transmission lines that has the lowest (dollar value) life cycle costs; and results in the lowest levelized electricity cost to Bellevue electricity rate payers.
8. PSE wrote the tariff that protects them. The City can and should fight this to protect the City and their residents from the dictatorship of PSE. Also: Studies show that in the long term undergrounding is less expensive that above ground due to lower maintenance costs and we shouldn't let PSE dilute these facts.
9. The City needs to put PSE's plan on hold for at least a year while all the independent studies are done and a good solution for all communities is found.

Topic: Questions

1. Does PSE proposed 230 KV line have to comply with the current city of Bellevue comprehensive plan specifically UT-39 and UT-71?
2. How can we as a Bellevue community, get legal advice and backing?
3. How do you as Council people plan to support the comprehensive plan which says aesthetics of the city are very important to you? How do you plan to show this and preserve our neighborhoods? Where are the council members to answer these questions?
4. I would like to receive a response regarding whether the issue of disturbing a steep slope hillside has been considered. Much of the land included in segment H has been classified by the city of Bellevue as a "critical slope" which is not to be disturbed, including removal of trees. Grading of the property is also prohibited. In my opinion, the proposed route through segment H would make the hillside unstable, possibly resulting in homes sliding down the hillside. Thank you for your response and consideration.
5. Why do we have a monopoly supplier of electricity in Bellevue? Why not have some competition?
6. Re: Inter-local agreement between King County and the Port of Seattle regarding Eastside rail corridor . Terms and Conditions: Sec. 1.3 PSE are concerned with existing facilities/ utilities at time of agreement. How can they expand on these rights 6 years after the agreement?
7. Why is the initial study for possible routes didn't include undergrounding option? Moreover, in the unlikely scenario undergrounding is mandatory will you need to run another study to come up with preferred options?

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Topic: Questions

8. Will the city of Bellevue do an independent study to find out the additional cost for burying the power lines where they go through properties - rather than take PSE's money for granted? Thank you!

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LETTERS AND EMAILS Received 5/27-6/9/2014

May 27, 2014 Hussey

We are unable to attend meetings, but wish to express our opposition to the plan to build high poles in the Factoria area. Poles of this nature should placed where they do not interfere with neighborhood vistas thus disrupting neighborhood values.

Mr. Mrs. K.L. Hussey

June 3, 2014 Hwang

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of 100 households in the south Bridle Trails area along 116th Ave, we submitted the attached letter to the PSE community advisory group. We thought that the City of Bellevue would also be interested in these reasons why the transmission lines should not be routed along Segment B. We have subsequently compiled more objective data quantifying the impact the project would have on homes along Segments B and C. I have attached the two documents here.

I hope you will take the chance to review these documents and appreciate why building the lines along Segment B would be the worst choice with regards to numbers of homes affected, environmental impact including removal of hundreds of mature trees in the protected Bridle Trails area, and difficulty in construction.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this further.

Yours truly,
Dick Hwang

June 3, 2014 Tish

Hi Mike,

I can't make it to the City Council meeting tonight, but wanted to share my views regarding PSE and the proposal regarding power lines. I find it disturbing that PSE is not considering 'undergrounding' the lines. I realize it is more expensive, but I feel that would be an appropriate treatment for our city. It should at least be part of the debate, so that as a community, we can consider the choices and decide how this might be paid for. I personally would rather pay more each month for my electricity in return for not having to have overhead lines in our neighborhoods.

Thank you for passing along my comments.

Laurie Tish

City of Bellevue
Community Forum on Energize Eastside
June 3, 2014

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June 3, 2014 Pollock

I am unable to attend the Energize Eastside Project public meeting tonight, but as a resident of Cherry Crest I would like to cast my vote for UNDERGROUND wiring in place of the proposed above ground towers.

Sandra Pollock

June 3, 2014 Horton

Greetings,

Attached please find a memo regarding my concern for the options you are considering for the proposed high voltage line. If there are others I should send this to, I would appreciate your letting me know their correct e-mail address.

Thank you.

Ann Horton

From: Ann L. Horton
Re: Proposed expansion of PSE capabilities
Date: June 2, 2014

First, in the event I have not sent this memorandum to the appropriate e-mail addresses, I would appreciate it being forwarded to the correct individual or individuals within your organizations as this issue needs immediate attention by the appropriate decision makers. I am sorry I was unable to attend the recent neighborhood walk along 116th Avenue NE, but I was out of the country. Please realize that it is difficult for people to alter their schedules and not being there does not mean a lack of concern.

I am not going to reiterate all the reasons why 116th Avenue, segment B should not be considered a viable option as Dick Hwang has put together a wonderful summary. If you have not read it, please do so. The address is http://segment-b.webs.com/reasins-against-segment-b.

It seems to me that before a possible route should be considered more due diligence needs to be conducted in house. For example, will the State of Washington grant right of way for an easement along Bridle Trails State Park or next to I-405. It is my understanding, that topic has not even been discussed yet. If no, then 116th Avenue NE should not even be considered as this impacts both the east and west sides of the street. I also believe efforts to force Seattle Power to share their corridor need to be exhausted. The cell companies did not want to share their towers, but in the interest of the citizens, "higher powers" decided that was appropriate and this PSE situation seems analogous. Existing corridors need to be utilized 100% before more of our beautiful landscape is destroyed.

It is my opinion any improvement no matter what route is selected should be buried underground. I adamantly disagree with the PSE statement that this benefits only the nearby property owners. The

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question is being posed wrong. It should be…would you as a PSE customer like to have a power pole located on your property, if no, then you too benefit from the power source and as such should share in the cost of the total project. This results in a reasonable annual increase in cost to everyone utilizing the power. For example, 18 miles times $20,000,000 additional cost per mile divided by a 25 year life divided by 50,000 users (guestimate only) results in an increase of less than $300 per year. I believe anybody in the "purple area" of the PSE grid should participate in the cost as we all benefit in the increase power source. Additionally, if power is sold by PSE that should first be applied to the cost of this project.

I am hopeful that any decision maker will take the time and walk 116th Avenue NE before rendering their verdict. Please visualize the lack of trees and change in character which would occur from this project. The destruction to our entire neighborhood could never be undone and the cost would be aesthetically and financially placed upon the shoulders of people totally unaware that such a project could occur. This is innately unfair, especially since options exist that could prevent this damage.

Sincerely,
Ann L. Horton

June 3, 2014 Storwick

Subject: energize east side with decentralized solar or something else more body / life friendly

If you follow relevant links in this article you will find some interesting information on the connection between exposure to electromagnetic fields (power lines) and childhood leukemia.

http://microwavenews.com/news-center/lost-opportunities

Chinese researchers have found that children who carry a defective version of a gene that would otherwise help repair damaged DNA are much more likely to develop leukemia if they also live near power lines or transformers. Xiaoming Shen and coworkers at the Jiao Tong University School of Medicine in Shanghai have reported that children with this genetic variant —known as a polymorphism<http://www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human_Genome/glossary/glossary_p.shtml> or snp<http://www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human_Genome/faq/snps.shtml> (pronounced "snip") —and who lived within 100 meters of these sources of EMFs had over four times more leukemia than neighboring children with a fully functional version of the same gene.

This could explain how power lines contribute to childhood leukemia. However, even if certain children could be identified as "at risk" - there are bound to be people who fall through the cracks. And, some recent studies are indicating that all are affected, whether they are symptomatic or not.

http://microwavenews.com/XRCC1.html

Given the validity of their argument, the EMF issue really needs to be on the table during the current discussion of running new transmission through east side neighborhoods. This issue needs to be thoroughly and honestly researched and understood by the project manager and PSE executives before continuing with this plan.

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Also see:

http://www.emfwise.com/powerline.php

Setbacks are calculated to protect lines from falling trees, but really need to be there to protect the health, sleeping, learning and play areas of our children.

Or we need to come up with other solutions, such as investing in truly decentralized energy production (which would mean making the grids much smaller - and developing a more functional battery) or even burning local garbage to supplement energy supply.

http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/does-burning-garbage-to-produce-energy-make-sense/

We need people in positions of leadership to become true heroes at this time. It is becoming very clear that environmental toxins are taking a tremendous toll on humanity and the natural world. The children and the unborn are the most at risk. I ask you to please act with integrity and make wise decisions that will truly benefit all of us for years to come.

Again, I urge you to use the precautionary principle when making these decisions rather than risk assessment formulas.

Sincerely
Sandra Storwick
Kirkland resident

June 3, 2014 McCray (2)

Bellevue City Council – we need your help to protect our City from the industrial blight of overhead high voltage transmission wires blighting t our City. Infrastructure improvements should be an improvement to the City, not a degradation.

Although others have, I will not argue with the need for the increased capacity. I'm not an engineer, I own and operate a financial business in downtown Bellevue, where I also own my office space. (11004 NE 11th Street, Suite 110, 98004). What I will argue is that the "solution" PSE proposes is in any way appropriate to Bellevue, and the greater Eastside.

I have benefited greatly from the foresight of prior Bellevue City Councils in making Bellevue a world class City with a vibrant business, retail, restaurant and residential downtown core, as well as with beautiful residential neighborhoods. This city was a dead area after 6pm thirty-five years ago. I can only hope that you will listen to the people who live and work in Bellevue as we tell you that PSE has proposed an unacceptable solution to the capacity need they have forecast.

PSE is proposing up to three high voltage transmission lines run through Bellevue. These will be ugly, and destroy value in the City. Not just for those who live

by the poles, but for all of us that have to look at them. All those who work in Bellevue. Bellevue does not need three electrical transmission corridors, it does not even need two. One is plenty. It is time for Bellevue to ask the BPA to get involved to help solve the issue of PSE and SCL working together to share a transmission corridor. It is obviously the right thing to do. If the public utility and privately owned utility cannot find a way to work together the Bellevue must join the other cities and help them do so.

Is Bellevue a second rate city? You must know that Seattle is currently in the review process for a 230kv transmission line through the city to serve its expected growth. Not one of their proposals is for overhead transmission wires. Why? I think the answer is obvious. It is an unacceptable solution, one that degrades the entire city. It is a shame that PSE has gotten so far with proposing "solutions", both of which are for giant unsightly towers and lines. Bellevue must protect its citizens and business owners, just as Seattle is doing right now. Is the Eastside the ugly step-sister to the beautiful emerald city?

Don't be pushed around by a corporation whose profit goals are not consistent with your city's needs. Immediately institute a moratorium on issuing building permits for transmission facilities for a year. You aren't electrical engineers. Invite the BPA and other regional electrical grid institutions to problem solve the issue with a long term solution in mind for Bellevue and the entire region.

Thank you for listening, and I hope taking action. As you can see by the volume of comments, although PSE claims they have a public process to respond to citizen concerns, the actual public feels otherwise.

Sally

To the Bellevue City Council:

I own commercial real estate in Bellevue and need your help. Please represent your electorate and refuse to allow PSE to trash Bellevue with giant electric transmission towers and above ground lines running through our beautiful city. Giant poles and wires are 50 plus year old technology, and entirely inappropriate for a high-tech city.

Surely there is a win-win solution. PSE's proposal to run giant towers along the Lake Washington waterfront, where a power corridor doesn't exist, creating a new one is outrageous. Bellevue does not want or need ***three*** high voltage power transmission corridors. Bellevue has the opportunity to have a world class trail running along the water front, and into the heart of the city. A world class trail such as the Sammamish River trail or Burke Gillman does not travel under 135 foot power poles with 6 foot or

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larger bases, which require the vegetation on either side to be mowed down. For an illustration of that look, check out the attached photo of the Interurban trail.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for Bellevue to have a park like trail, which like other city parks benefits the entire City. It will make bike commuting, family walking and enjoyment available in the heart of downtown, something not possible until the abandonment of the BNR right-of-way. Don't give this away to a foreign owned, for-profit power company. Once those poles go in, they will never go out. They will mar the enjoyment of what could have been, and of what exists now. From the business towers to the neighborhoods that border the city the PSE proposal to "share" that corridor is unacceptable.

No less offensive is their proposal to replace 40 foot wooden poles which are ugly, but blend in with the trees, with monster poles rising 12 stories high, with never the opportunity to be camouflaged with tree cover. PSE tells us that the maximum height for trees is 15 feet within 95 feet on each side of their proposed poles. The 60 year old poles were state of the art at the time. If they need to be replaced, it should be with an improvement for the city, not a form of industrial blight. It is not appropriate in the downtown core, in the neighborhoods, or even along the freeway. There are other solutions. Please join the citizens of Bellevue in demanding a solution that is a win for the city and all of its citizens. We don't mind if that winning solution is also a win for the foreign owners of PSE, owners who may never have stepped a foot into Bellevue. Just so long as it isn't a loss for us.

David McCray

Input & Feedback Received

R. Peter Saunders,
14001 SE 45 Ct,
Bellevue, WA,
98006-2341,
(425) 747-3665
6/2/2014
Subject: Energize Eastside Community Forum 6/3/2014

Dear Council Members,

I would like to submit a possible compromise solution to the planned high-capacity 230 kilovolt two circuit, six line, feeder planned to run North and South through the residential, retail, industrial, and rural areas of Bellevue.

Clearly the cheapest route is above ground using ugly pylons, or better looking poles in selected areas if we are lucky, and using existing easements in most cases. Some of those PSE easements currently run through prime view property and will significantly lower property values in those situations.

The most desirable solution is of course to go underground. For big city downtown areas it is a necessity. For most of the Bellevue residents undergrounding is not absolutely essential, and is definitely financial out of reach, and PSE has shown no intention of going that way. So our choices are extremely limited. What choices there are (Seattle Light's easement, power storage for peak usage, Lake Washington underwater, adding dual cables to each line, etc.) have all been well voiced and will hopefully be under serious consideration by the Bellevue council.

The practical answer, however, is to consider a hybrid solution in all view sensitive areas, which would probably providing a manageable cost over an above-ground line, but will afford the weather reliability savings obtained with undergrounding, and offer a real compromise between high implementation costs, and preservation of views, protection from the elements, and easier repair access. I am suggesting the assembly of above-ground, prefabricated reinforced concrete module sections, constructed off site, and laid along existing easements, on a shallow ditched gravel drainage bed.

A two circuit module would be about 6' high x 12' wide (with a center wall) and some 10' to 15' long so they could easily be trucked in and positioned by crane or on rollers. They would have built-in top access steel doors like existing vaults, have built-in internal cable racks on the center wall like subways do on their side walls, and floor drainage holes to the bed of gravel below the vaults.

If the vaults were in a 2' ditch then the evacuated earth could be placed against the vault sides to form a grass slope. The necessary power feeder system would then be reasonably acceptable to the majority of residents affected. The only engineering problems are the inevitable lines across highways and streams. In those specific areas the modern metal single large diameter poles, simple pipe tunneling, or established underground methods, would be used as appropriate.

Of course PSE will resist any major changes to their internal preferred route and line design. But I hope this suggestion will at least get a City engineering/cost review. This type of power utility situation will continue to crop up from time to time in Bellevue and other cities and townships. New ideas, if viable, need to be explored, and a hybrid may

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be a good compromise answer. Extreme must-have solutions never go anywhere in situations like this. Hanging our hat on undergrounding will end up with monstrous pylons. Better to push for clean looking poles early on in the process if the pre-fab above-ground vault idea won't fly. Our Bellevue Council should push for some sort of middle ground, and stick with it when PSE apply for permits. Your voice will be heard and seriously considered, though reluctantly.

Peter Saunders.

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June 3, 2014

Bellevue City Hall

I am Laura Hurdelbrink, vice president of the Bellmeade Association. I am also known as the neighborhood Lorax and I am here "to speak for the trees" since their voice is not being heard.

Everyone has been talking about the esthetics of their view and concerns about the cost of lines and as a consultant for both consumers and public utilities for many years I can understand the issues, but no one is speaking for the trees. Even Kemper Freeman's architectural view of downtown Bellevue shows the last remaining cedar.

Communications between various officials at PSE, King County, and the City of Bellevue always seems to be behind when making planning changes. Bellevue makes changes in roads regularly that require removing trees such as the 120th avenue changes that are occurring now 2014, but PSE does not have the permits now to put in undergrounding down a treeless street instead of waiting to 2017 to install in areas that will require tree removal.

Trees are important. As a long term resident in Bridle Trails, I have seen more and more trees removed all in the name of progress, disease, or because of a big blow. They are irreplaceable storage of carbon. To quote another author, "only God can make a tree," but The City of Bellevue can save many trees. Thank you and please hear the trees.

Laura Hurdelbrink

Input & Feedback Received

To: City of Bellevue Community Meeting Facilitators
From: Lindy Bruce, Sunset Community Association Secretary/Newsletter Editor and PSE CAG alternate
RE: PSE CAG process

While I joined PSE's advisory group with an open mind about learning more about the Eastside's energy needs, delving into possible solutions and providing PSE with the many challenges and problems there could be for all of the Eastside neighborhoods through which PSE runs power lines, I have been deeply disappointed with the process so far. Of the 28 neighborhoods along the 18 mile line, only a few have a seat at the table to determine the route. At the first meeting, EnviroIssues' facilitator informed the alternates that they could not comment during the public comment opportunities. We were only there to participate in the Sub-area Workshops as informed citizens – and so they could use our names.

The data from the Sub-area Workshops is flawed because some routes were underrepresented, others were overrepresented, the categories of important issues overlapped, and the facilitator never informed us how to create a meaningful picture of our opinions.

It has been quite difficult to get realistic answers to genuine questions. One of my neighbors is an EE living adjacent to the current "H" 115kv lines, who has several concerns, principal of which is Corona Discharge Noise – a problem when humidity rises. The answer he received was yes, this could be a problem, but only to people who live near the lines. I have asked about interference with Emergency Operations Networks like the one in our neighborhood that is hosted by a HAM radio operator who lives near the lines. Again, I was assured that it could be a problem, but it won't be much of a problem unless you live close to the lines. At PSE's Q&A for Somerset, several of their experts were present, and one casually informed us that they would need to use 2 monopoles wherever the BP pipeline shared the ROW. I have been asking for clarification on this for months and been told that it could be 1 or it could be 2 poles, but they wouldn't know until design had been done. 2 100-foot poles will have a much larger impact on neighborhoods than 1 would.

How are we, as a Citizen Advisory Group supposed to come up with a viable route alternative when we are given volumes of information but few real answers?

As far as we can see, PSE had already eliminated several possible solutions (undergrounding, co-generation and battery storage) that would

Input & Feedback Received

be more acceptable, in whole or in part, to the affected neighborhoods before starting the CAG process.

Along with other members of the CAG, I respectfully ask the City of Bellevue to notify PSE that the City recognizes that the CAG process has not provided transparent, solid information to the neighborhoods, that the project as proposed by PSE would significantly violate neighborhood character, and either to stop wasting time on it or restart it with other options for the CAG to consider with a newly constituted CAG that includes participating representatives from all the affected neighborhoods.

The neighborhoods need the City of Bellevue to consider a new, independent study of wired and non-wired options that will allow the CAG to make informed, rational suggestions, perhaps with a consortium of energy companies including PSE, SCL and Snohomish PUD, for regional solutions that will make a lasting infrastructure improvement that we can all live with and make Bellevue the 21st century city that it aspires to be.

June 4, 2014 Flash-Hemphill

Hello. Unfortunately we couldn't attend last night's forum on PSE's proposed expansion through Bellevue. So we're hoping you can add our comments to the report you are preparing for the city council.

1. We know PSE needs to increase its power supply. That said, we want to make sure the increase is the right size. Right now the power lines that go through our Somerset neighborhood are on the small side, something like a two-lane country road. Based on what we've heard, it sounds like PSE is proposing to increase the size of the lines by up to 400% to make it a super-highway! That is not needed at this time. Please don't let PSE turn these country road powerlines into a Superhighway. Make sure the increase is right-sized. Also, please make sure you consider conservation efforts that will reduce the rate at which power increases are needed into the future.
2. Please ask PSE to provide an accurate photograph of what the proposed power lines will look like. We have not seen such a photograph. This is important for neighbors to have.
3. Please give yourselves enough time to adequately study the proposed routes and all the options. If this means delaying the decision a year, please do so.
4. Please consider asking PSE to partner with Seattle City Light in its expansion plan and possibly to use the existing City Light powerlines if possible.

Thanks for listening. Feel free to contact us if you have questions.
Regards,

Cynthia Flash Hemphill and Dan Hemphill

City of Bellevue
Community Forum on Energize Eastside
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June 4, 2014 Wedeberg

Subject: Comment: Community Forum on Energy Eastside

We are legacy residents of the Pacific Northwest...both born in Seattle, and residents of Bellevue since 1985. As a married couple, we chose to live and raise our family in what we consider one of the most beautiful regions in America...having also lived for short periods of time in Minnesota and Southern California. We live here for the lifestyle afforded in the northwest, the mountains, Puget Sound and our beautiful waterways, the clean air, and on the Eastside for the education afforded our now 3 adult daughters. These are the same reasons they all choose to stay and raise our 6 grandchildren in this area. So we have had choices on where we wish to live, and we have been fortunate to have traveled throughout a large portion of the USA and Western Europe.

We are hopeful and pray that the Bellevue City Counsel will tell PSE that without a thorough and independent 3rd party evaluation of ALL available power options that there will be no permits to proceed with these monstrous towers. The risk and costs are simply too great to our environment, and there seem to be several alternatives that would better suit the environment and citizens of Bellevue. It is not in our best interest to simply rubber-stamp the quickest, cheapest and most profitable solution for a corporation that is only looking out for their bottom line...and have no other stake in the game. We also are hopeful that the independent evaluation be made available to all Bellevue residents and affected area residents, so that you can receive the important feedback necessary from those of us who are most affected by these significant decisions.

Sincerely,
Fred and Judy Wedeberg.

June 4, 2014 Herrgoss

Subject: Community Forum on Energize Eastside June 3 2014 Meeting

Dear City of Bellevue Staff,
I attended the meeting at City Hall yesterday, June 3rd, and submitted comments, but I came across additional info I wanted to submit regarding the category "Alternatives to Consider".

1st point: I feel PSE's unwillingness to provide undergrounding, underlake, etc, as a viable option is not acceptable, and they should do more investigation into other options.

In one of PSE's previous meetings, they said they estimated it would cost $20+ million per mile to put the transmission lines underground. Take for example a report from Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) with Inter-Island (Undersea) Transmission Cost estimates:

http://www.solari.net/documents/portfolio/Solari-HECO-2013-IRP-App-H-Inter-Island-Transmission.pdf

Just taking a quick glance at Appendix H-2 for the configurations on undersea 200MW lines, the range of

Input & Feedback Received

total cost seems to be max $12.5 mill/mile for a redundant line and $8mill/mi for non-redundant line, almost 1/2 of PSE's estimates for undergrounding. Although comparing the two projects are like comparing apples to oranges, I felt it is still good to provide this as additional data points/reference and to point to the fact that given other states are looking at options like undersea, an underground or underlake option should not be out of the question for our community, and perhaps be less costly than PSE currently believes. Other residents expressed options such as battery storage, etc, and those options should be considered as well.

2nd point: When other alternatives are investigated, I would like to see sufficient information including cost impacts for the community to assess and compare. Refer to the below example on costs - HECO wrote this press release that had detailed cost info on their 138kv -voltage line underground project. There is a table at the bottom of the page that has great information on the various underground options, including "Added cost to average monthly residential electric bill".

Hawaiian Electric: East Oahu transmission line proposals

Hawaiian Electric: East Oahu transmission line proposals

Community meetings share details on HECO's proposed alternatives for East Oahu transmission reliability FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 23, 2003 Contact: Peter Rosegg Phone: (808) 543-7780

I moved from Hawaii to our community almost 20 years ago and have loved living here due to the stunning natural beauty of the area. I hope that we can all work to preserve the nature of our community, and pursue alternatives for the Energize Eastside project that do not include massive above-line power lines and structures running through our community.

Thanks,Shari Herrgoss
Somerset Neighborhood

June 4, 2014 Medley

Dear Council Members,

Thank you so much for organizing the 6/3/14 Public Forum on PSE's Energize Eastside Project. The City Staff from the Planning, Development and Neighborhoods Departments heard the statements of 30+ speakers who asked the City of Bellevue to protect our city and its citizens from PSE's *current* plan to meet the energy needs of the Eastside over the next several decades.

You should be proud of your constituents who vowed to unite in opposition to PSE's insistence that high-voltage transmission lines are the only solution to the Eastside's energy needs rather than succumb to PSE's attempts to pit one neighborhood against another. It demonstrates how much we Bellevue residents love our city. We turn to you as our elected officials to protect our city and keep it in harmony with the beautiful environment that makes Bellevue such a special place to live for *all* of us and those who visit us.

I left these comments in writing at the forum. I also wanted to post them electronically.

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First, I question the need for the 230kV transmission lines that PSE is proposing.

PSE does not clearly explain what data and assumptions they used to predict that the 405 corridor will begin experiencing significant brown outs after 2017.

The City of Bellevue should request a list of assumptions and data used by PSE to reach this conclusion.

PSE further claims that:

- they've wrung all the savings they can from conservation

The City of Bellevue should request a list of the conservation programs PSE has sponsored and compare them to non-profit utilities (such as Seattle City Light) to see how their conservation priorities differ. Were the most energy-saving programs offered to PSE's customers?

- alternative technologies such as energy storage, underwater DC transmission lines with DC to AC
  conversion are not yet cost-effective.

The City of Bellevue should request to see what specific quotes were used by PSE to determine they were not cost effective. Do they have quotes from a variety of companies that are state-ofthe-art in energy storage technologies, in DC transmission technologies?

- Seattle City LIght does not want to share their transmission line right of way with PSE or work cooperatively with PSE to update this aging infrastructure.

The City of Bellevue and the other 4 cities involved in Energize Eastside should request a meeting with BPA to discuss regional transmission strategies.

The five city councils need up-to-date and industry-relevant data that is more accurate than that presented by PSE to justify that 1) the area actually needs larger transmission lines and 2) that 18 miles of 230 kV transmission lines are the only answer to energizing the Eastside. Perhaps a less expensive solution is possible IF energizing the Eastside is the only objective for PSE. There is great concern in the neighborhoods that this is just a smokescreen for PSE to build a larger transmission capacity primarily to meet energy needs outside the 405 corridor.

I encourage the Council to read Puget Energy and Puget Sound Energy (McQuarrie) Form 10-K to the Securities and Exchange Commission.
http://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/81100/000108539214000009/pe-12312013x10k.htm

Second, I am very concerned about the safety issues related to digging holes deep enough to support 130' tall x 6' base diameter poles along the pipeline right of way. PSE's glib answer is they have their own pipelines (natural gas) and have worked with BP (Olympic Pipeline) on many projects.

The City of Bellevue should meet with BP/Olympic Pipeline Officials and understand their concerns about Energize Eastside. It would also be useful to find out if they have shared a right of way with PSE in such a densely populated area involving such large excavations.

The huge Bellingham explosion was the result of a crack in the pipeline caused by earthmoving equipment in
combination with a computer failure to detect changing pressure in the line. Three lives were lost and extensive property and environmental damage resulted.

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I appreciate the Council's willingness to hear from its constituents directly and to devote time to a public airing of our concerns.

Janis Medley

June 4, 2014 Crispin

It is beyond belief that the city would even consider allowing PSE to string their wires thru our neighborhoods. Underground is the only proper solution regardless of cost. It is just a matter of who pays whether it is us thru loss of value for us or PSE and their customers who are the beneficiaries by going underground.

Dennis Crispin

June 4, 2014 Kristen

I am very concerned about the proposed project and the negative effect it would have on property values. The proposed utility poles would be disastrous to go up in our residential communities. It would decrease the values to the not only the adjacent properties, but also the surrounding community. I believe Bellevue is one of the best managed cities in the Northwest. We have outstanding schools and strong business development. There is beautiful green space that provides the perfect balance to suburban living. Please, I ask that you work together to find a solution with the lowest visual impact to our neighborhoods and keeps Bellevue at the top of the list of great places to live.

Thanks for your efforts.
Stephanie

Stephanie Kristen

City of Bellevue
Community Forum on Energize Eastside
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June 4, 2014 Gregov

Subject: Concerned Bellevue Resident

Dear Bellevue City Council,

My name is Erin Gregov, and I live in the Newport Shores neighborhood of Bellevue. Last night I attended the Community Forum regarding the Energize Eastside Project, along with many others.

First, let me tell you that I just heard about this impending project this week. I was lucky that I ran across the details regarding the forum in the paper yesterday. PSE has done a poor job educating the Eastside and affected neighborhoods about this project.

I am deeply concerned about the Energize Eastside project. My concerns include:

1) Why are we rushing this project through? We need to take the time to make good, smart, progressive decisions.

2) I do not feel that enough consideration is being given to alternatives to the proposed high capacity electric transmission lines; ie: underground, Seattle City Light Corridor, WADOT, Batteries, solar etc...

3) What about taking a serious look at who is using all this 'additional energy' that we are going to need? I can assure you it isn't the neighborhoods that are going to end up bear the burden of housing the power poles.

Where was Kemper Freeman - Developer, and other major players in the development business? I didn't see them at last night's meeting. These players have been very quiet on this issue... Why aren't their any proposed solutions that involve compromises on their behalf? Solar panels on the roofs of new buildings to offset much of the power they will undoubtedly require?

4) There was a mention of selling the 'extra' power that we will be able to generate with these high capacity lines to Canada. Why would we do that? Are we currently selling any of our power to other locations? What would be the benefit to the EASTSIDE in doing this? I see the benefit for PSE, but what about us?

5) What about property values? My family has worked very, very hard to own and maintain a home in a city that we are proud to be a part of. Absolutely, if one of these high capacity lines is built in my backyard our property values will plummet. Furthermore, the very little noise buffer in the form of trees that we do have from 405 S, will be totally wiped out to accommodate these monstrous poles.

(Side bar: PSE wants to place the poles on an easement in our back yard that rears to 405S that was given to BNSF a very long time ago, that somehow without our permission is now available to PSE to use??? this is suspect. And we have been contacted about joining a class-action lawsuit to fight).

6) What about the unknown health effects of these high capacity wires might have? Has any independent research been done about that?

These are a sampling of my concerns regarding this project. If adding these types of high capacity electric transmission lines will lead to PSE earning billions of dollars, then they can absolutely pay for a more progressive and acceptable solution in regards to their placement.

The City of Bellevue needs to step in and take action. Please do not let PSE bully us into this terrible proposition. We will be sorry.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,
Erin Gregov

June 4, 2014 Bateman

To: Bellevue City Council

Energize Eastside

Puget Sound Energy has proposed a new transmission line that runs from Renton to Redmond based on 1960's technology. However this is 2014, and today the rules are different.

One example of the differences was demonstrated in a recent meeting between the community and PSE: PSE showed their slide show and a member of the community asked to see the data that supported one of PSE claims on the charts. He was told that PSE could not provide the data to him until he gets clearance from the Department of Homeland Security.

We have been told that the United States needs to protect our critical infrastructure against the threat of terrorism. We have seen major changes implemented toward meeting this goal. One spectacular example is the new Highway 93 bridge over the Colorado River which bypasses the road over the top of Hoover Dam in Nevada. Cars are no longer allowed on the top of this and other dams.

So in the interest of national security which is better: a new transmission line encased in concrete and buried underground, or a new transmission line dangling on the top of a 130 foot steel pole?

Thank you for your consideration

Richard Bateman

City of Bellevue
Community Forum on Energize Eastside
June 3, 2014

Input & Feedback Received

June 5, 2014 Borgman (3)

Esteemed City Leaders,

In 2012, Bellevue paid an independent consultant, **EXPONENT,** to conduct an electrical reliability review for the City of Bellevue:
www.ci.bellevue.wa.us/pdf/Manager/Final_Electrical_Reliability_Study_Phase_II_Report_2012.pdf
Is PSE implying that our tax dollars were poorly spent and the information contained in this report is worthless?

Quotes from this independent review:

- "PSE has not experience any load growth since 2008….The present planning criteria is for 0.5% annual growth in the immediate future and about 1% per year for the next ten years….the likely result is a surplus of available electric energy." (pgs. 49, 89, 90)
- <Recommendation> "The City of Bellevue and PSE should synchronize their growth projections for the City." (pg. 6)
- "The overall system in Bellevue is reliable…reliability in Bellevue measured 0.44 (frequency of outages per customer) and 66 minutes (length of outage)…Bellevue has significantly BETTER reliability performance than PSE's overall system reliability for its total service area." (pgs. 1, 14)
- "The City may choose to support or oppose measures for investment brought forward by PSE…and the regulatory agencies (have an obligation to provide) Bellevue with a means of keeping current on plans for the electric system…" (pg. 129)

The Exponent Report says 1% growth. PSE assumptions say 2.3% - MORE THAN DOUBLE. **The capacity argument does not hold water.** The WUTC goal is 1.3 (frequency of outages per customer) and 320 minutes (length of outage). Bellevue is more than 3X BETTER than the WUTC requirement. **The reliability argument does not hold water.**

- Land Use
  - We have a GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY to leave a lasting legacy on par with the beloved Burke-Gilman Trail. We have a 57-mile nature corridor of beautiful proposed Rails-to-Trails extending from Renton to Everett. THAT is the legacy our community wants to leave for generations to come. There is an existing lawsuit regarding the sale of the BNSF rail right-of-way to the Port of Seattle, and sold in-turn to PSE. Washington case law plainly establishes that an easement for railroad use does not include subsurface or aerial rights, and would not include the right to put up high tension power lines. Sub-surface and aerial rights were NOT granted to BNSF, the Port of Seattle, or to PSE. **City Leaders, we implore you**, please honor the spirit and letter of the **Federal Trails Act**.
  - Many potentially impacted neighborhoods still may not even know about the existence of this project. **City Leaders, we implore you, please get the word out** via a variety of traditional and social media outlets.
- Safety
  - If these lines are completely safe as Dr. Thatcher and other PSE experts have claimed, why do they need to string them up SO HIGH? *12 stories?*

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- There are currently no State, or Federal, regulations for 230KV above ground transmission lines. The WUTC, EFSEC, and WECC do not have the appropriate laws and enforcement power to insure public health and safety. Washington RCW 36.70A requires cities and counties to develop comprehensive land use plans. **City Leaders, we implore you**, please work with County and State agencies to **protect its citizens.**
- Long-term health studies on the effects of EMF are still in-progress. The jury is still out. **City Leaders, we implore you**, please **do not make Eastside residents guinea pigs** in this health study.
- At the May 14th Community Advisory Group (CAG) meeting, PSE commented that Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) and Corona from these transmission lines may extend beyond 200 feet and **may interfere with back-up emergency 911 communication** in the event of a disaster (HAM radio back-up communication).
- Data show that these lines are 50% thicker and can operate at up to 400°F. The noise, crackle, EMF corona, pole height, and pole diameter, by their very presence, will impact the environment, wildlife, insects (like bees which are necessary for food production), humans, and pets in ways that have yet to determine. **City Leaders, we implore you,** please demand a **PROGRAMMATIC EIS** that explores the necessity of this project, the costs associated with multiple options, and the trade-offs associated with all options.

Let me close by saying the Community Advisory Group process is deeply flawed. It does NOT represent the will and preference of all 28 neighborhoods that could be impacted:

- PSE's survey data is deeply flawed in that it does not normalize against sample size (neighborhood scores with the loudest representation are given numerical preference)
- PSE eliminated several viable options BEFORE it began the CAG process
- PSE is manipulating the process and the data, making it impossible to arrive at an accurate, fair, and transparent decision
- The solutions proposed are short-sighted, with PSE claims that Energize Eastside will be outdated in 30 years or less

The CAG process has become window dressing to give the illusion of public participation**. City Leaders, we implore you,** please do not be put at ease by the seductive half-truths provided by PSE. **Engage third-party independent experts to verify every assumption, every estimate, and every "fact" that PSE provides.**

PSE actually has PLENTY of capacity, in fact excess capacity. Their regional chart (pg. 9, Eastside_Needs_Assessment_Final_Draft_10-31-2013v2 REDACTED R1) indicates that an issue likely does not appear until at least 2022, IN WORST CASE CONSERVATIVE SCENARIOS. It really could be much later - not 2017, as PSE has indicated.

Bellevue will serve as the Lead Agency for the State Environmental Policy Act Review. We have time to study this problem and find the appropriate solutions using the latest technologies that can support the Eastside for longer than 25 years**. City Leaders, we implore you,** please **ask BPA (a federal agency) to get involved** and provide oversight to both PSE and SCL to work together to find the best overall solution for the *entire* Puget Sound eastside community – not what makes the most short-term sense to individual shareholders of a for-profit private utility.

A concerned citizen and proud resident of Bellevue,

City of Bellevue
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June 3, 2014

Input & Feedback Received

Russell Borgmann

June 4, 2014 Tilley

Dear sirs,

We are adamantly against the PSE Segment B proposal to build a power line along 116th Ave. The reason we decided to live in Bridal Trails was because of its unique wooded character. The city of Bellevue has acknowledged this unique character by passing ordinances to regulate the removal of large mature trees. However, this project would require the removal of a huge number of mature trees along this corridor. It is also not reasonable to install such large power lines above existing houses and schools. It has come to our attention that a large percentage of the electricity using these power lines would actually be used to sell to Canada. We think PSE should not be allowed to totally alter the character of Bridal Trails so that they can profit by selling power to Canada.

Best Regards,

Robert Tilley

June 4, 2014 Merrill

One way Bellevue can realize its commitment to our shared values of livability, sustainability and innovation is to plan for the coming wave of "non-wire" solutions to electricity load growth. Non-wire solutions generally fall into the categories of demand side management and distributed generation as well as conservation.

To understand how quickly these technologies will be widely deployed, it's helpful to understand that they are already causing major disruption in the utility industry. A short article by David Crane, CEO of NRG Energy and a highly respected utility industry leader, describes the economic and technological forces that are currently creating the biggest changes in the history of the electric utility industry.

While non-wire solutions, in my opinion, are not yet a stand-alone solution to the challenges of facilitating the anticipated growth Downtown and in the Spring District, they will reverse peak load growth in much less than the lifetime of PSE's proposed transmission project. The implications of non-wire solutions for projections of peak load growth on the Eastside in the next 10 – 20 years are extremely important and should be understood by the City.

Input & Feedback Received

One demand side management or "peak-shaving" technology which is rapidly falling in cost and being installed at scale is storage, particularly residential storage. Please consider the below free webinar for yourselves and select staff to learn about electricity storage.

Best regards,

John Merrill
Bellevue resident and small business owner

June 5, 2014 Evison

Dear Mr. Huent,

We are strongly against the proposed 230vK transmission lines on 116th - Route B.

Community Engagement:
Residents on this route found out about the proposed lines through word of mouth - no-one on this segment ever received any notification of this upcoming project.

Neighborhood Character:
From Northup Way heading north along 116th is the Bridle Trails and this leads to the entrance of the Bridle Trails State Park. Either side of 116th is old growth trees - some 687 of these trees will be taken down if the project goes ahead. We have bike lanes and a designated horse trail along 116th and all this will be disturbed. The integrity of the whole area will be destroyed should these massive transmission lines be installed.

Public Health:
230kV transmission lines pose a great risk for all residents from the EMF that is emitted - 1 gigabite of power is totally unnecessary. With the 687 mature trees being taken down - the noise pollution is going to be unbearable. The air quality will be severely impacted as there will be nothing to absorb all the pollution and there will be a substantial increase in the carbon dioxide.

Alternatives to Consider:
PSE has offered nothing! The many Electrical Engineers that have attended our meetings have many alternatives - from underground wires, different routes which would not affect people, Grid Batteries that are being used in other states etc. The data PSE has provided is suspect - many have found inaccuracies in their statements and each time we have met with them they give different answers.

Need for Expanded Capacity:
No-one disputes that Bellevue is growing. However, the City should take the lead and use technology that is current and will preserve the integrity of its neighborhoods. There are many ways to increase our power without turning Bellevue into an Industrial City with these monstrous transmission poles. The amount of power necessary for the Eastside should not require the amount that PSE states - how much

of this will be sold to Canada and California? Their brochure states only 5% was sold to Canada when in fact 38% was the amount! An independent study by highly qualified individuals is definity required prior to any decision.

General Comments:
It's a real shame this utility was sold to an overseas company as they only care about the profits and not the people. Since Macquarie bought out PSE everyone has stated that customer service has disappeared. Bellevue Council needs to put a stop to PSE

Sincerely,
Trish & Brian Evison

June 5, 2014 McCrary (3)

Thanks for the response, and yes, Dave McCray is my husband. Neither of us could attend the meeting, so looks like we both submitted comments. Nobody wants the lights to turn out Mr. Matz, we just need to get some true independent engineers in to work on a solution that meets both the city's needs, and that of its citizens. What PSE has proposed is a choice between two unacceptable alternatives. They may best meet PSE's needs, (I'm a business person – I could give you an earful on that), but they trash Bellevue and the Eastside in the process.

Take a drive down I-405 and check out the Factoria area, at the I-90 intersection or the Renton area around exits 3-4-5 and you'll see what I mean. People drive and see that every day. There is no wonder both of those areas are not as prosperous as the neighboring areas that have not borne the brunt of PSE's energization of the eastside. Who wants to work there? Who wants to live in that blight? That Bellevue would even consider allowing either of PSE's current proposals is a testament to the value of hiring a TV entertainer as a PR guy. Andy Wappler was not hired for his electrical, meteorological or business expertise! Too bad we poor taxpayers cannot afford a multi-million campaign of our own.

The poor Woodridge neighborhood is going to get crushed. They'll get PSE big poles on one side, and then when BPA upgrades the SCL line, (as planned and published) they are going to be energized all right. What a waste of a lovely Bellevue neighborhood! Bellevue needs to get all the players in the same room and force coordination the power corridors going through the city. As I said before, one corridor is enough. Two is excess and *three,* as PSE has actually proposed is outrageous.

The board of PSE can probably hardly believe their luck of getting so far into this process without being kicked back to the drawing board. That any of us would rely on PSE employees and PSE hired consultants to come up with the best solution for the city and the region is almost *unbelievable*. The cities and regional power authorities should be hiring that expertise, establishing the priorities, and giving PSE their choices if they want to do business in the city.

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Input & Feedback Received

Sally

June 5, 2014 White

Mike, Nicholas and David,
Attached please find my comments regarding the "Energize Eastside Project". You all have a big job ahead of you on this one! Thank you for protecting our beautiful resources in this city! I walk the greenbelt trails everyday in my neighborhood and have great gratitude for the open spaces the city has created. Thank you for overseeing development and balancing the need of industry with the desire of the people! We have beautiful neighborhoods as well as an attractive environment to do business in. Most importantly, Thank you for giving the intelligent people of the City of Bellevue an opportunity to weigh in on the PSE proposal. It shows what our city was founded on … good sense!

"Energize Eastside" Comment Card

In an effort to use resources wisely I have decided to write my comments in this form. I have been assured they will be part of the record for the June 16th Council meeting. I attended the meeting on Tuesday June 3rd as a fact finding mission. I learned so much and appreciate the City for offering this Forum as a way to both educate citizens and give citizens a voice for their concern regarding the PSE Energize Eastside Project.

My comments are as follows:

Community Engagement: The city of Bellevue has always given opportunity for the community to get engaged in projects which affect us. My last 'civic involvement' pertained to the T-Mobile cell phone tower added on Highland Drive. Based on those experiences I am reticent to feel confident that my concerns will be heard. As our elected officials it is your due diligence to listen to the concerns voiced in this process. **Please listen and represent us well**!

Neighborhood Character: I attended the meeting because I love Bellevue! I love the trees, the management of open space and the unique ability the city seems to have finding balance between nature and technology. That being said I heard a lot of comments last night about plan A over plan B and 'pitting neighborhoods against neighborhood'. How about the City as a whole saying to PSE: "**We will not allow you to ruin our long term, hard fought, and carefully thought out plan for our city**. You can either use the existing infrastructure or put the new lines underground."?

Public Health: I got involved with the T-Mobile tower because of health risks. *As a cancer survivor*, diagnosed *after* the tower was placed on Highland Drive directly north of my home, I ask the city to *thoroughly investigate EMF's* and their associated health risks. I cannot use enough words to communicate the importance of this … ***PLEASE investigate* associated health risks with 230Kv of electricity running through residential neighborhoods on 130 foot poles!**

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Environmental Impacts: I am a certified tree hugger. I love Bellevue for their policies regarding the trees. Even before the lorax lady talked last night this was a BIG speaking point for me personally. I further learned that there are critical slopes to consider on some of the route through Bellevue. **I do not understand how the city can have a policy that generally protects trees but is considering allowing a multinational company to dictate, disrupt and disregard those policies** for the profit of their stock holders! I am an economist and in my cost benefit model on topics such as this one the environmental impact takes front seat! Please tell me you will NOT allow PSE the right to mow down hundreds of trees for their profit. That cost I so great for me and I should think it too great for a city that has allocated so many resources towards forest and open space management.

Alternatives to Consider: There were many alternative discussed last night at the meeting that warrant further research … Grid batteries as backup storage, incentives for alternate power sources in Bellevue and of course under grounding. I am a fan of saying to PSE: "In this city we underground as a policy moving forward" … period. An idea I did not hear discussed last night: **a proposed initiative for the city to tax the highest power users** (Bellevue Square, Overlake Hospital, Bellevue College for example) to help offset the cost of undergrounding. I do not think residential taxpayers need carry this cost, but I do think the biggest users should be asked (or told) to contribute to this upgrade. Honestly, I am not sure I would support an additional levy on my property taxes, but the Council should look into some alternative levy to offset the cost if it is really as great as PSE says it is.

Need for Expanded Capacity: Is it really as PSE says it is? Before I hear any speakers last night I wrote on my note paper "Fear based propaganda by a foreign owned company! Do we allow bullying to part of our decision making process. We teach our children not to bully and not to be bullied. Why does the Council think that it is OK for the citizens to be bullied in this way by this multinational monopoly? I heard comments last night that there is no dire need and we will not exceed capacity by 2017. That in fact the PSE system does not currently run at full capacity and that 35% of what gets generated goes to Canada! I love our neighbors to the north but I am not in favor of ruining our city for their power needs**.** **Most importantly we should NOT be bullied and subjected to fear based propaganda. PLEASE determine the facts about capacity before acting on any plan!**

General Comments: All action has motives, costs and benefits. Is there a profit motive for the city to allow this? Is there some understanding between PSE and the municipality we citizens have no knowledge of? I hope all involved can behave in an adult fashion and find a compromise that makes sense. Good luck, I'll be watching with great interest!

Elaine White
Forest Park Meadows HOA

Input & Feedback Received

June 5, 2014 Magnani

Under community engagement topic:

I am disheartened by some disingenuous, misleading and outright divisive comments made by PSE and its Energize Eastside Spokesperson, Andy Wappler about the project. It has contributed to a widespread lack of trust and faith in PSE as a company and in its community engagement process.

Mr. Wappler has repeatedly made the comment to the media that the current H shaped wooden poles are 70 feet high, while the new poles going in would be between 90 - 125 feet tall. Yet the H shaped poles in the Somerset neighborhood average 40 feet high, and Jens Nedrud, the PSE lead engineer on the project, stated the poles would have to be a minimum of 135 feet high (more than triple the current height).

Mr. Wappler was quoted in a Seattle Times article dated June 1st characterizing residents who want the City to independently study an underground option as "owners of multi-million dollar homes in Bellevue." Yet these new lines are not running through West Bellevue, and one would be hard-pressed to find any "multi-million dollar" homes east of I405 near the proposed routes in Bellevue. I attended the June 3rd Community Forum, and I find Mr. Wappler's comments to be insulting to the hard-working, modest, tax-paying folks and their heartfelt and intelligent comments that they made that evening. As one speaker stated: "I am not a multimillionaire. I am not a millionaire. I am not even a half millionaire." That speaker spoke for the vast majority of the people in that room at City Hall. Mr. Wappler's comments come across as a deliberately divisive strategy to pit people and cities against each other and it fostered "anti-Bellevue" comments to the article, such as how those Bellevue people probably want their transformers guilded with gold too.

But worst of all is that **PSE was not forthcoming in the beginning that the Energize Eastside project will also be used to sell power to Canada.** PSE told us this project is needed to meet the growing power needs of the Eastside. Only after documentation was uncovered and PSE confronted did they admit the upgrade will be used to sell "5%-10%" in international and interstate power sales. (Quote by Jens Nedrud, PSE Project Manager.) This is especially concerning since PSE is investor-owned and foreign-owned so it may very well be placing the needs of its investors to earn profits ahead of (or at the expense of) its 1.1 million PSE customers.

We need an independent, neutral expert to verify PSE's claims and data to ensure they are not taking advantage of us. And in order to do this right, a delay in PSE's plans to fast-track this project is in order.

Input & Feedback Received

This comment falls under the topic of Need for Expanded Capacity

Seattle is currently in the process of planning its second underground transmission line. So why can't we do that on the Eastside?

In the December 4th article in the Puget Sound Business Journal, Andy Wappler is quoted as saying that, while the Eastside's population is growing, "job growth is the real driver" of our region's need for more power.Google, Boeing and Costco are specifically mentioned. Redmond's population nearly doubles everyday as people show up there for work (Microsoft?) - "the nation's biggest spike in daily population." If businesses in Seattle are helping foot the bill for under grounding transmission lines needed to keep the lights on in their expanding office buildings, then I'm wondering why aren't Google etc being asked to help pay to underground them here - Wappler is very clear here that business growth and not population growth is the real driver of our need for more power in the region.

This comment falls under the topic of Public Health.

The Olympic Pipeline Company has expressed safety concerns about PSE placing new mega poles with higher voltage power lines along route segments that carry Olympic gas pipelines. I am highlighting comments from the attached letter by Kim West, Olympic Pipeline Area Maintenance Engineer. It seems strange that Olympic was not included as a part of the Community Advisory Group (CAG) by PSE in the route selection process given that they have a shared easement.

Olympic has two pipelines that run approximately the entire length of segments C, E, J, and M in a shared easement within Puget Sound Energy's electric transmission corridor. The location of the pipelines may be found anywhere within the easement from the center of the Right-Of-Way to either side and can run together or separate.

The route selection will be our prime concern for a variety of reasons including safety, impact to landowners, future maintenance, and customer impacts to name just a few. Therefore we feel that segments B, F, H, and L best address the concerns mentioned above.

Patricia Magnani
Lower Somerset Neighborhood

City of Bellevue
Community Forum on Energize Eastside
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Input & Feedback Received

June 5, 2014 Moy

Hello,

I was unable to attend the community forum on Tuesday, but my neighbors have informed me that comments on the topic will be accepted by email. I live at 4455 137th Ave SE in the Somerset community. My main concerns about this proposed project relate to the community aesthetics and to resident safety.

Regarding aesthetics, Somerset is an area defined by its gorgeous views. This was one of the primary factors which drew me and my family to this area when we purchased our home here in 2009. It has a wonderful west-facing view of Lake Washington, Seattle, and the Olympic mountains. We can currently see the tops of the existing power lines from our view windows, but they do not impede our view. I expect that new power poles that will be ~80ft higher will be nearly at eye-level and directly block my view, and have a significant negative impact to my and my neighbors' property values.

Regarding safety, much of the proposed route options run along the Olympic Pipeline. The notion of doing this defies all common sense. I understand that the pipeline company has already voiced objections, but the routes nonetheless remain viable in the eyes of PSE. Please recall the catastrophic pipeline explosion in Bellingham in 1999, and the fire at the Renton pipeline facility that was suspected to be caused by an electric arc from a PSE junction box (http://www.wutc.wa.gov/webimage.nsf/9f7b2ed366e9fec588256efc00506bc0/78a390e25b47d78e88256ea2008250e7!OpenDocument). These events should be enough to justify alternate options that do not place these power lines and associated construction efforts near the pipeline.

I attended 2 of the 3 community meetings that PSE held in the spring to get neighborhood feedback. I have zero confidence in the process and if our feedback is really being considered.

One thing I'm curious about... why is PSE our power company, and what would it take to replace them with a locally owned/managed entity? Given that PSE is a private company owned by an investment firm in Australia, it's hard to believe that they have any motivation besides maximizing profits. Why couldn't we instead have a public utility like Seattle City Light or Tacoma Power that would conceivably operate in the best interest of the city?

Thank you for your time and attention. I hope that Bellevue city officials will be able to take appropriate steps to put an acceptable solution in place.
- Jamie Moy

City of Bellevue
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June 5, 2014 Sterling

Attn: City Council

I am writing because I have just heard about the possibility of having new 12-story power lines going through my neighborhood. It appears I missed the meetings, and I want you to know I am absolutely against the idea of having these giant power lines anywhere near me. Along with many of my friends, I am sensitive to Electromagnetic Fields (EMFs) and I'm terrified that if this project goes through, I would have to move, losing my beautiful Bridle Trails home, in order to protect my health. I cannot live near power lines like this.

Besides my concerns for health and home, I have owned and operated a retail store on Northup Way for over 28 years. With these horrible power lines going through, I am concerned I would also have to move or close my business. I have been in the same location since 1986. I cannot work near power lines like this. I don't even like to drive on 124th Avenue NE, which has these huge power lines already:

Please don't allow this to become our city's future and our legacy to our children, and their children.

Please find a way to work with CENSE - the Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy - to find a solution that will not harm our homes, our businesses, our health and our quality of living in beautiful Bellevue for tomorrow and the next generations.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
Tess Sterling
Bridle Trails Resident and Bellevue Business Owner

City of Bellevue
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June 5, 2014 Masnari

To City of Bellevue

The following statement concerns me.

"EASTSIDE RAIL CORRIDOR Segment 4: Bellevue/Sound Transit Segment profile draft dated 7-10-13 addresses many challenges to sighting multiple uses in the corridor."

The following statement in the draft raises a few questions for me:

"Study pinch points and analyze alternatives for multiple use scenarios. *Staff from King County, Sound Transit, and Puget Sound Energy have developed high-level dynamic "envelope" estimates for the typical clearances that are generally needed around and between different types of rail, trail, and utility facilities."*

Begs the question what are the dynamic envelope estimates. Have the specific details of these elements been presented and discussed. Without those details we are allowing PSE to proceed on their project without a detailed understanding of how they will address the pinch point issues. The City of Bellevue, King County and Sound Transit need to make sure that PSE's use of the corridor does not result in future problems for trail and light rail projects.

Jeffrey Masnari

June 5, 2014 Taylor

Hello,

I am requesting that the City of Bellevue review the cost estimates for under-grounding of transmission line installation of PSE's Energize Eastside project.

I have numbers from a credible analyst indicating that the actual, full cost of under-grounding is not as large as described. The entire project cost with under-grounding included may, in fact, fall within allowed rate increases.

I have attached a chart based on draft calculations for the increased amount per customer per month for the under-grounding of the lines alone. This chart assumes the amount to underground is in addition to PSE's cost baseline of $150M and with a 40 yr amortization period. The highest anticipated monthly charge per customer per month is $1.99 per to underground the lines.

These estimates are in line with information shared during a recent community meeting in which PSE indicated that 1,100,000 PSE rate payers will see their rates increase 1% to 2% in support of this project

Input & Feedback Received

as currently planned, depending on which route is selected. PSE also indicated that two primary routes are being considered at a cost of $150M and $300M respectively. Based on their own estimates, the average monthly charge to PSE customers would increase from $99 per month to approximately $107.00 per month for all 18 miles to be installed underground. From a community member, "...a price that he felt all rate payers would gladly pay not to trash and blight our 28 neighborhoods in five communities...no response from PSE...just incredible to say the least."

We can see in the Chino Hills project a similar trend. In the case of Chino hills, protesters predicted a rate increase of $0.15 per month per Southern CA Edison customer, account actual increase amounts are $0.80. Here's an effective article on the Chino Hills, CA project:

http://www.dailybulletin.com/business/20131012/edison-monthly-bills-to-go-up-8-cents-for-chino-hills-undergrounding

Independent evaluation of the actual costs of proper, underground installation of the Energize Eastside lines can assist us in verifying whether or not the above ground alternatives should continue to be considered prior to the EIS process. It seems preferable to learn from the lessons provided by the Chino Hills communities rather than to follow in their footsteps.

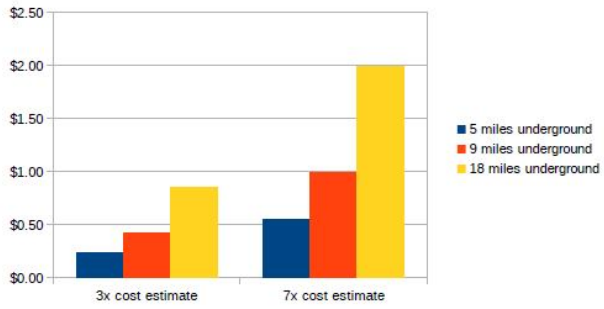
I would also appreciate the City of Bellevue considering carefully what the towers in this project are actually like with respect to impact and appearance. They are similar, if not the same as, those that will be used by PSE should they install the lines overhead. The Chino Hills project carried 500kV lines but the difference in the relative size and impact of the poles is generally not significant.

The fact that we as citizens are being forced through a project development process under schedule duress and without enfranchised representation within the evaluation process is appallingly negligent on the part of PSE. Communities are being forced to choose against one another in a battle that should not exist. Under-grounding opens up route alternatives that will be supported by voters and fall within the development planning, regulatory requirements, and policies we have put in place to support the values of our communities. The impacts to the daily lives of residents subjected to this process have been devastating and this process has only just begun. I humbly request the City of Bellevue to lead an effort to set an example in how this process can be changed to the benefit of PSE and area residents as well as in the solution that is finally realized.

Costs

Incremental Cost Per Household over life of project/month

	5 miles underground	9 miles underground	18 miles underground
3x cost estimate	$0.24	$0.43	$0.85
7x cost estimate	$0.55	$0.99	$1.99



Thank you for your efforts on our behalf, they do not go unnoticed and are very much appreciated.

Lisa Taylor

City of Bellevue
Community Forum on Energize Eastside
June 3, 2014

Input & Feedback Received

June 5, 2014 Baker

Recommend that the City Council look into possibility of partnering with Sound Transit to embed portion of transmission lines in tunnel infrastructure that will be developed for light rail in downtown Bellevue.

Also could partner with developers that will be developing the new Bel-Red corridor project, that would certainly be opening up a lot of earth during that massive building project.

Other idea would be to run the lines under Lake Washington in conjunction with new 520 bridge build-out, and tie line into the new tunnel structure over on the Seattle side being built for light rail. Can even work with Seattle City Light on this.

Another idea would be to re-locate the new transmission towers further East in lower population density areas, and run parallel to I-90 and submerge the lines under Lake Washington like they are now. If PSE says they need to build new towers, I can't imagine it would be much of a cost difference to move the towers further east where there would be less scenic blight, environmental, and health impact than the routes currently being proposed.

IF (and only if) the need for more power transmission lines is proved to be needed by an independent consultant who assesses REGIONAL power needs and confirms new lines are needed to address power demand, then do what you can with collaborative, creative partnerships like the above to get the lines buried in high density population areas like downtown Bellevue and surrounding neighborhoods, or get the towers moved out to low density population areas.

Thank you.

Paul & Julie Baker
Residents of Bellevue

June 5, 2014 Hall

Dear City of Bellevue,
The proposed PSE project environmentally and emotionally devastates and divides the neighborhood character of our beautiful city of Bellevue. We would never want a city of industrial blight. The current report provided for this project was the best money could buy. It was funded by PSE to promote their own ends not Bellevue's needs. Please City of Bellevue, use a truly independent knowledgeable examiner to make unbiased assessments of this project and provide Bellevue government and it's citizens with the information and alternatives needed to make the wisest and most sensible decisions for our city that will endure for many, many years. Please use an independent examiner.

Thank you,
Michelle Hall

City of Bellevue
Community Forum on Energize Eastside
June 3, 2014

Input & Feedback Received

June 5, 2014 Burkholder

To: Bellevue City Council, Bellevue City Planning and Community Development, Bellevue City Development Services

To whom it may concern,

We live at 1801 136th PL SE in Bellevue directly on route PSE designates as Route E. Our property directly abuts the existing 115KV Line.

My background is as an Electrical Engineer although I currently work in the software industry.

I purchased our home in 2009 with full understanding that I would be living next to a 115KV line. For me personally, it is relatively unobtrusive both visually and aurally. Most of my neighbors have a more negative view of the current line. In our home, although I am on the line, we don't see much of it and it is ENTIRELY silent which WILL dramatically change with a 230KV above ground line. Putting the aesthetics aside for a moment, the physics electrical fields at 230KV are such that line noise WILL happen and it will be incessant. At times it will be very loud and I provide a basic explanation on Corona Discharge Noise below that you may verify independently. We will hear the buzzing at quiet times when the humidity rises. This will be evenings and mornings as the temperature drops, as well as the dew point, and the relative humidity rises and when it rains. Pretty much every day, forever.....

As a business executive I am generally in support of the right for private businesses to make their own decisions. That being said, one of the REALLY important reasons that there is regulation in the power industry is to to provide some level of influence for customers who are captive and can not vote with their dollars. **We have no ability to decide that PSE does not deserve our business and choose to deal with a provider that treats its customers better.**

In principle, am entirely open to the need for additional transmission capability but with implementation on OUR terms. Undergrounding may be more expensive but short term thinking is NOT warranted here because we will live with this decision for another 100 years or more. Grid Storage is also a likely viable solution but also has environmental impacts. (I am speaking of Lithium Battery rather than pumped storage which requires water and reservoirs.) Our current transmission grid is NOT ready for high current "superchargers" in every home to support the burgeoning electric automobile market. (In order to have quick charge times you need high voltage and high current and I believe this will be the new defining domestic electrical load.)

I join my community members in encouraging you to exercise your abilities in driving transparency, fairness and our community desires into what has already proven to be a contentious relationship with PSE.

In summary, ultimately I am quite willing to be rational in consideration of solutions that are at least no more obtrusive that what I have already been willing to live with but a new above ground 230KV

City of Bellevue
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Input & Feedback Received

Line ANYWHERE in Bellevue, is something I am vehemently AGAINST both aesthetically and from the perspective of line noise as well as my own home value and neighborhood experience.

In conclusion I have one immediate question. How can I help you in driving this to a viable solution for both the Bellevue Community and PSE?

Best Regards,

Eric S Burkholder

P.S.

A Primer on Corona Discharge Noise.

Powerline noise is one of the things that gives most people the willies about being near a power line. The technical issue is about the the noise is created by small arcs of electricity on the outer surface of the conductor and we hear is as a incessant buzzing and popping. It happens as a result of strong electromagnetic fields (EMF) on the surface of a conductor and is affected primarily by three factors.

1. The operating voltage of the line.
2. The size and shape of the conductor.
3. The dielectric(insulating) value of air.

Since the insulating value of air changes, mostly as a result of humidity, the higher the general humidity, the more often it will occur. We live in a humid environment with lots of rain and this makes this a bigger problem for us. In short, 115KV never causes Corona noise because it never exceeds the breakdown voltage of air on the surface of the conductor. 230KV and higher DOES cause issues and we WILL hear it. A response that our community has received from PSE, downplays the issue saying that it will likely be drowned out by "the Rain" but this is misleading. (perhaps not intentionally but perhaps it is...) We will hear the buzzing at quiet times when the humidity rises. This will be evenings as the temperature drops, as well as the dewpoint, and the relative humidity rises. Pretty much every day, forever.....

June 5, 2014 Wu

Dear Mr. Huentelman,

I am a Bellevue resident (note living on Somerset). I have been closely following up on subject matter. I strongly propose PSE's current proposal of running high-voltage 13-story poles through our beautiful neighborhoods in a 18 mile stretch through 5 Eastside cities as a solution to meet increasing energy demand on eastside.

I am very concerned about the potential dangerous electromagnetic fields (EMF) will have on people. After all, the scientific study on this subject is till not conclusive. Especially the proposed lines may run through our public schools.

Input & Feedback Received

I am also grown not to trust PSE. More and more evidence are suggesting that there are hidden agendas and the meetings they hold are not really seeking public opinion but a forced sale. PSE's planning documents show another goal PSE hasn't made clear to the public which help transfer power to and from Canada and even CA according to the documents available form ColumbiaGrid. One option included in ColumbiaGrid Updated Transmission Expansion Plan proposed a better solution that addresses both the grid and local need on already 230 kV lines that is old. Even though this line is owner by Seattle City Light. This line is allowed to use for free for years without charge and doesn't serve any useful purpose to handle load growth in Seattle. Why PSE eliminated this option?

I have been to couple of the public meeting organized by PSE. It is obvious to me that there is a strong conflict of interest between SPE and the public. PSE is owned by an Australian investment banking firm, who solely goal is maximizing investor's profits. They don't care how our beautiful city will be adversely impacted. I moved from east coast for the beauty of the Pacific Northwest. My friend who works for one of PSE's biggest contractor told me it is a trend in both Europe and US to have high power transmission line go underground. An underground high voltage power lines through chino Hills will only increase the ratepayers by 8 cents a month. Suppose a regulation of mandatory underground will pass in next 15 to 20 year while our cities will be stuck in the next 100 years with this ugly monster, dangerous poles! This is a matter that impacts 2 to 3 generations. We demand a full feasibility study done with accurate and concrete numbers for underground possibility.

PSE also dismissed other alternatives without sufficient documentation such as under water transmission, which is cost effective and common. San Francisco will put a 230 kV AC line in the bay for half the cost per mile that PSE says it would take to lay a cable in Lake Washington. Why that big of a difference? We need an independent reviewer of all the reports by PSE.

I sincerely hope city council will step in to do its best to make a positive impact for generations to come.

Thanks

Bellevue Resident

June 5, 2014 Malte

Re: Need and Environment

I live a short distance east pf NE 116th Ave NE, PSE's plan B.

This plan, if executed, would devastate the 116th communities in north Bellevue and south Kirkland. The plan would wipe out an urban forest of large fir, with some broad left trees, of an area of about 2 miles length by 40 to 80 feet width. This urban forest is an integral part of the Bride Trails subarea plan for Bellevue. If this urban forest is clear cut, as PSE proposes, property values would drop, residents would leave, summers would be hotter (requiring more A/C), pollutant levels would increase, and the green shield would disappear. The environment impact would be great.

Many residents along 116th Ave NE did not learn of PSE's plans until a month ago. Since, we have been to two meetings presented by PSE, where we learned about the plan, but were given little detail and key information.

Input & Feedback Received

We were shown a graph with PSE's stated capacity of about 700 MW and the growth in wintertime cold night demand, reaching capacity in a few years. It is assumed that the 700 MW capacity mainly represents the two existing 115 kV, 3-phase lines running the length of Bellevue and the eastside. PSE's implication was clear: unless new and larger transmission lines through eastside residential areas are built this decade, brownouts and other electrical problems will arise. PSE brushed off a non-wires solution, such as conservation, energy efficiency, and distributed generation, saying those had already been considered in the plan and more not could solve the problem. But no supporting data were provided by PSE.

Many of us aren't buying it -- at least not without details from PSE. There is a lot of talent in the eastside communities that can understand and help solve this problem, perhaps without more wires. But we need objective and useful data and information.

What PSE proposes is 230 kV lines, probably 2 (each 3 wires), each rated at about 1 gigawatt (ie, one billion watts) power, about the electrical power generated by a large nuclear power plant.

Before neighborhoods are subject to this huge level of power transmission a comprehensive study, independent of PSE is needed. We fear that PSE is proposing a 1960's solution and not using 2020 technology. For example:

- SNOPUD plans to demonstrate grid-scale, advanced battery storage technology at one of its substations. PSE in its meetings dismissed this technology. California is requiring careful consideration of this by utilities. It stores electrical energy for use during peak loads, and it facilities distributed generation and renewable energy. PSE needs to get serious about this technology.

-What about reducing electrical demand for heating? Where is PSE on this? Many new condos and apartments are being built on the eastside. How are these being heated -- hopefully with gas rather than mainly electricity.

-What about home co-gen? Where is PSE on this? What about heat pumps with gas backup. In my house, on cold winter nights, the electric heat pump shuts down and the backup gas furnace takes over. On cold winter nights, I consume much less electricity.! This technology has been around for at least 10 years. Were is PSE on it? Were are the incentive programs?

- Re lighting, where is PSE on LED lighting? This could make a significant dent in electricity use.

I could go on, but I think I've made my points:

-Comprehensive and independent study of electricity for the eastside.
-Use of current and soon to be current technologies.
-Preservation of our urban forest and residential neighborhoods.

Sincerely yours,

Philip C. Malte

City of Bellevue
Community Forum on Energize Eastside
June 3, 2014

Input & Feedback Received

June 6, 2014 Mickelson

Thank you for hosting Tuesday's meeting. Very well done and very informative.

We would like to see a thorough review of all of the options, and to seriously consider undergrounding any expansion or the use of battery banks.

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***Dave Mickelson***

June 6, 2014 Esayian -2

Another item I would like looked into: if the Columbia River Treaty between the U.S. and Canada is to be renegotiated this year, 2014, in order to rebalance the downstream power benefits resulting from the Treaty - what impact would this have on the actual electrical energy needs for the greater Eastside/Bellevue.

However the system works, please include additional options of transmitting power, other than the line overhead options proposed by PSE, in the City's initial Environmental Impact Studies.

Thank you,
Karen Esayian
Somerset neighborhood

June 6, 2014 Taylor

Hello,

I've been asked to include comments I made in a discussion with a community organization to the City of Bellevue for inclusion in the public comments. I am happy to do so. My comments are as follows:

PSE is aware that BPA has a project to increase capacity through the same corridor approximately 10 yrs out. This puts BPA scoping for their project shortly after completion of this one with PSE. We all know the SCL lines are aging. PSE does have interest in a combined effort to create a longer-term, more costly, wired solution in combination with these other two power agencies if we can make that dialog happen.

PSE cannot initiate or manage that discussion, we will need federal support from BPA and our senators to make that happen. This solution needs to be driven in parallel to existing efforts.

I am increasingly convinced there is strong evidence that the utilities and transportation agencies view our central Eastside as an industrial corridor to develop as they see fit. I find this idea mortifying and
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Input & Feedback Received

believe we are fighting an even more serious battle for the future of our cities that I expected. And, what I expected with the Energize Eastside project is bad enough.
Instead of a 20 yr solution for PSE with BPA and SCL on their heels, wouldn't it be fantastic to develop a joint 40 yr solution for all three that reduces the imposition of existing lines (post construction)? I think this can be done but the effort required of our city and residents is large.

The precedent the City Council sets here is a high stakes game.

Sincerely,
Lisa Taylor

June 6, 2014 Tong

Dear Mike,

My name is Loan Tong and I am a resident of Somerset. I strongly oppose PSE's current plans to run the 18-mile above-ground poles through Bellevue's residential neighborhoods.

PSE has a code of ethical conduct page (http://www.pugetenergy.com/pages/codeethics.html) that states specifically:

Our Company conducts its business in an honest and ethical fashion. The Company will build, operate, and maintain its energy-delivery infrastructure in a manner that will provide a high level of public safety. The Company is committed to operating in a manner that promotes conservation, operating in an environmentally responsible and safe manner.

This is obviously NOT what PSE is doing when they consider putting high voltage wires next to schools and residences 1) endangering our communities' children, 2) ruining the beautiful environment 3) so this company can earn higher profits. Not acceptable!

Before any PSE works is done, I ask that an independent study is conducted to determine ALL viable options to increase capacity, the pros/cons of each option and a detailed list of costs associated (health, adverse impact to the environment and property values, and actual costs for the expansion). PSE should not be its own judge and jury in this matter and be able to conduct its own studies and render its own decisions based on these subjective studies.

Additionally, PSE sites incremental millions of dollars in costs for an underground expansion option. What is the net impact to the average household monthly bill? In the Chino Hills project, the conclusion that the actual, full cost of undergrounding is not as large as described and does, in fact, may fall within allowed rate increases. In the case of Chino hills, protesters predicted a rate increase of $0.15 per month per Southern CA Edison customer, account actual amounts were $0.80. Here's a good article on the Chino Hills project: http://www.dailybulletin.com/business/20131012/edison-monthly-bills-to-go-up-8-cents-for-chino-hills-undergrounding

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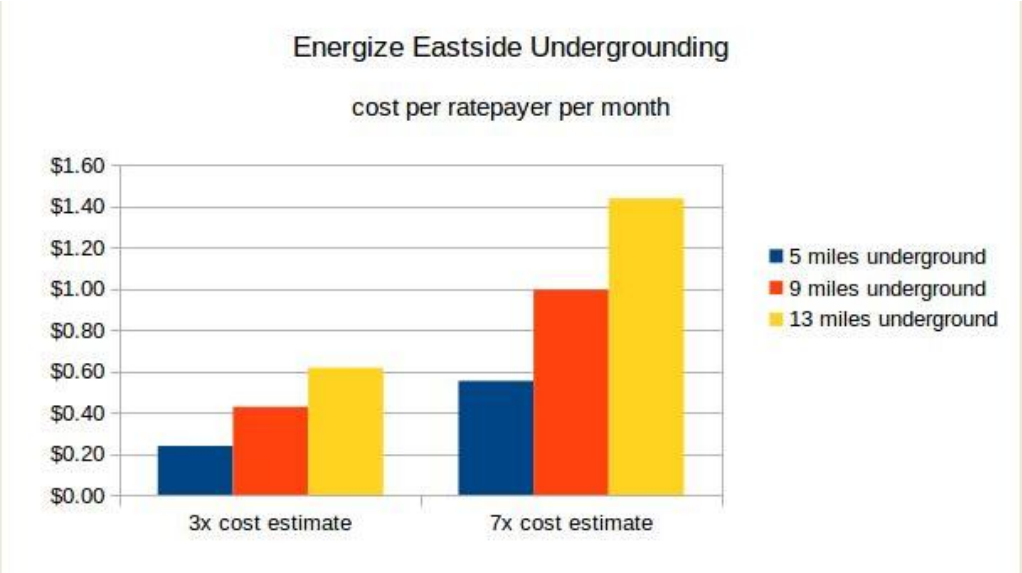
A graph of an initial **draft** run of increased amounts per rate payer numbers for our 18 mile problem is attached, using assumptions PSE has given for number of variables. This chart assumes the amount shown is incremental addition to PSE's lowest project completion estimate i.e. worst case for rate payers.

PSE needs to consider this viable option instead of using scare tactics to lead us to believe it will be astronomical. This is unethical.

In summary, we need unbiased, independent studies done that will not harm our and our children's health or our environment. We need real facts about underground options and move forward on this.

Regards
Loan

Attachments:



Agenda Date: July 26, 2013
Item Number: A6

Docket: UE-131230
Company Name: Puget Sound Energy

Staff: Joanna Huang, Regulatory Analyst
E.J. Keating, Regulatory Analyst

Recommendation

Input & Feedback Received

Issue an Order in Docket UE-131230 that:
a) Approves the sale of the Lower Snake River Wind Facility Phase II development rights and assets and approves the transfer of PSE's BPA Transferred Transmission Credits to Portland General Electric; but
b) Set for hearing, Puget Sound Energy's proposed accounting and ratemaking treatment.

Background

On June 27, 2013, Puget Sound Energy (PSE or company) filed a petition requesting three actions. First, the petition requests a finding that the Purchased Assets are not necessary or useful pursuant to RCW 80.12.020 and WAC 480-143-180, or in the alternative permission to transfer its development assets related to Phase II of the Lower Snake River Wind Facility (LSR II) to Portland General Electric Company (Portland General). Second, PSE requests that the commission approve the transfer of its Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Transferred Transmission Credits to Portland General pursuant to WAC 480-143-120. Third, PSE requests that the commission approve the proposed accounting and ratemaking treatment associated with the sale. PSE requested the commission act on its petition by July 29, 2013.

The Lower Snake River Wind Facility owned by PSE is a planned 1,250 megawatt installation of wind generation to be constructed in five consecutive phases located in southeast Washington. LSR I, with a nameplate capacity of approximately 350 megawatts, was completed in February of 2012. None of the other phases have started construction. LSR II, the subject of this petition, is proposed to have a nameplate capacity of approximately 270 megawatts.

In order to connect to the transmission needed for LSR's output, 1,250 megawatts of substation capacity was developed. To complete the interconnection with the transmission system, PSE loaned BPA $99.7 million to construct the Central Ferry Substation. BPA operates, maintains, and owns the substation. BPA repays the loan to PSE for the substation through Transferred Transmission Credits plus the annual FERC interest rate in the form of additional Transferred Transmission Credits. In other words, PSE receives "transmission service credit" equal to the total cost of the substation plus interest in the form of future transmission service from BPA.

As of May 14, 2012, PSE ratepayers have been paying PSE's authorized net of tax rate of return on the full $99.7 million associated with the loan made to BPA for the substation, plus a return on the $17 million in carrying costs that PSE accrued at its net of tax rate of return. The $17 million in carrying costs were accrued from May 20, 2010, through May 14, 2012, at PSE's net of tax rate of return.

On June 2, 2013, PSE entered into the Asset Purchase and Sale Agreement to sell its interest in the development assets required for the construction and operation of LSR Phase II to Portland General for $16,008,000. The net book value for LSR Phase II is approximately $15,933,493. The LSR Phase II assets have never been included in rate base.

Portland General will also pay PSE $20.5 million for LSR II's portion of the $99.7 million substation loan. LSR II's assigned capacity of 270 megawatts in the substation is approximately 21 percent of the 1,250 megawatt substation capacity.

Input & Feedback Received

Discussion

Staff accepts the sale of the LSR II development rights and assets for $16 million. However, the company's calculation of $20.5 million as the appropriate allocation for LSR II of the substation's $99.7 million regulatory asset is incomplete. Staff has determined that a greater reduction to the regulatory asset account of about $23 million is fair and reasonable..

Staff was unable to resolve this issue within the roughly 30 days allowed by the company's filing. Therefore, staff recommends this petition be addressed in two parts:1) approve the sale of the LSR II development rights and approve the transfer of the BPA Transferred Transmission Credits; and 2) set for hearing the portion of the petition that addresses accounting and ratemaking treatments.

Conclusion

Issue an Order as described in the Recommendation section above.

June 6, 2014 Brown

Dear Mike,

My name is Randy Brown. My address is 14018 SE 42nd St, Bellevue, WA 98006. I am the Block Captain for Somerset North Slope, responsible for the safety of 46 homes located on the north side of the Somerset subdivision near Tyee School.

I have attended many local meetings sponsored by PSE in the last few months. Unfortunately these sessions have been counterproductive. I'm sure PSE intended to inform the public of their plans and hoped to solicit support from the community. However, the effect has been to alienate residents and convince them that PSE's efforts are merely a pretense meant to sugar-coat "industrial blight."

Setting emotion aside, one idea that seems promising is storage devices. There devices can store sufficient energy to handle peak loads. Utilities much larger than PSE are building these into their networks to forestall the need for massive build-outs and to buffer their networks against unexpected demand. I am not a power engineer, but I understand these devices are viable right now and cost-effective.

According to PSE's forecast, peak demand will exceed capacity by 9% in 2022. In other words if conservation efforts and technology improvements can reduce demand by 9% or more, we can hold the demand curve below capacity for the next 8 years. (On a personal note, converting to florescent lights a year ago reduced electric usage in my home by roughly 30% -- and I'm probably not the last resident in Bellevue to make this conversion.) The point is that storage devices – basically batteries – could buy us time to harvest more conservation gains and to realize the benefit of even better technologies that are on the horizon, such as LEDs, etc.

Input & Feedback Received

The Eastside is home to Microsoft and other high-tech companies. We should be exploring leading-edge solutions, like high-capacity storage devices, together with PSE rather than resorting to fear-mongering and potential lawsuits.

Sincerely,
Randy Brown

June 6, 2014 Mozer

ENERGIZE EASTSIDE
Comments to the Bellevue City Council
by Hal Mozer
4247 135 PL SE (Monthaven neighborhood)
Bellevue, WA 98006-1319
425-746-1028
hal@halmo.com

I chose not to speak at the June 3, 2014 comments session because I didn't think 3 minutes would be adequate for much for than oversimplified statements. I will try here to be more definitive.

First, a review of my background and qualifications. I moved to Eastgate from Portland, OR, in 1955, long before Eastgate was part of Bellevue. I moved to Monthaven in 1965 to the home where my wife and I still live. I am in what some of us call "lower Monthaven" where were have essentially no views. The Energize Eastside project, as now proposed by PSE, will have no visual effect on me. My only interest here is being sure to continue to have a reliable electric supply and to be sure the issues are presented accurately. I jumped into this discussion when I saw too many misstatements, misrepresentation of issues, too much hyperbole and emotional arguments with little foundation. I heard a lot of those at the Council's June 3 session.

I am a retired electrical engineer with over 50 years of experience in the electric utility field. I retired from full time work in 1993 and continued to do part time consulting for about 10 more years. This experience included 7 years as an engineer at BPA in Portland and the rest of the time as a consultant in Seattle and Bellevue with major consulting firms. My clients included both public and private utilities. At times I had consulting assignments as an adversary to PSE's interests and at times PSE was a client. Before I dropped all my registrations after retirement, I was a registered professional engineer in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California and several other states. Over those many years my assignments included power supply studies, transmission and distribution system planning and design, and engineering aspects of economic feasibility studies of new power generation, including some of the major hydroelectric plants on the Columbia River.

City of Bellevue
Community Forum on Energize Eastside
June 3, 2014

Input & Feedback Received

Issues:

Power to Canada: This issue has been misrepresented and I believe is not relevant. And I don't think it has been well explained by PSE in the information sessions I have attended or in their published material. As simply as I can explain it, the Energize Eastside project was developed to serve local, Eastside, mostly Bellevue, future peak power supply needs. PSE's selected project was the Energize Eastside 230 kV overhead transmission line. Once this project was identified by PSE, the transmission line was included in the regional power grid planning studies by the regional non-profit organization ColumbiaGrid. (See http://www.columbiagrid.org/) PSE, Seattle City Light, BPA and other major generating and transmission utilities in the Pacific Northwest are part of ColumbiaGrid. Once the Energize Eastside line was included in the ColumbiaGrid studies it was found to provide a small benefit to the Pacific Northwest power grid under certain conditions. Yes, at times a small amount of power would flow over the Energize Eastside line to and from Canada; but this is not why Energize Eastside is being proposed. This power flow situation simply is the nature of an interconnected power transmission system; when two or more transmission lines are interconnected, some power will always flow over each interconnected line in amounts based on the electrical characteristics of each line and other factors. The Energize Eastside line, if built, would be interconnected with other 230 kV lines and some 500 kV lines; therefore, the amount of power flowing over the Energize Eastside line that is part of the power which seasonally flows either to or from Canada would be quite small. For similar reasons, an even smaller amount of power intended to be delivered to or from California will flow over the Energize Eastside line. This, by the way, would be true if the Energize Eastside transmission line is overhead or underground/underwater.

PSE ownership - Complaining about PSE's Australian ownership seems to make some people feel good. I think it is a non-issue. The majority of the Board of Directors of PSE are not in Australia. And the day-to-day operating officers of the company are local and should be accessible. Most private utilities have widely scattered owners, rarely a local majority. Warren Buffet's company, Berkshire Hathaway, owns PacificCorp, whose corporate headquarters are in Portland, OR, and serves much of Oregon, a little bit of Washington and other western states. At one time a Scottish company owned PacificCorp, but sold it.

Public ownership This is an appealing option to some people. Up to about 20 years ago, I studied many proposals for public buyout of private companies. I made such studies for both public organizations seeking to create public power companies by acquiring a private company, and for private companies facing a potential buyout; I know both sides of the issue. Rarely did such proposals show economic benefit. All of the reasons are too complex for this discussion, but, in general, the major issues are the cost of buying the private company, the source and cost of the power supply for the new public company, and the difference in public and private company interest rates.

NO ONE LIKES AND OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINES IN THEIR RESIDENTIAL AREA, NEVER, EVER! THIS IS THE PRIMARY ISSUE WITH ENERGIZE EASTSIDE! Call it NIMBY or whatever, this is a natural and expected reaction to any proposed overhead power line I have ever had experience with, especially in more densely populated areas. Placing an overhead high voltage transmission line in a congested urban area has been an increasing problem for electric utility companies for many years. If PSE is surprised about

Input & Feedback Received

the intensity of the opposition to the proposed Energize Eastside overhead 230 kV transmission line, I am surprised.

So electric utilities all over the world are looking for ways to avoid overhead transmission line and are studying and implementing various alternatives. Some alternatives for Energize Eastside need to be seriously considered. PSE has looked at some alternatives, including underground and underwater transmission, and their study documents are on the Energize Eastside web site. But the studies considered only construction costs, which is not an adequate basis for comparing the alternatives. There are pluses and minuses to each alternative, but many of these will not be revealed except by studying both initial costs and long term operation and maintenance costs, sometimes referred to as "life cycle" costs.

So, what are some alternatives?
Underground or underwater - place all of part of the line underground or in Lake Washington. This is technically feasible, but initially expensive. However, there are some operating benefits as well as operating problems with underground/underwater transmission. The major issue is who pays for the high initial cost of underground/underwater compared with the cost of an overhead line? I don't know that answer. The WUTC sets PSE rates.

Distributed generation - put the power supply where's it's needed rather than bringing it to the load by transmission lines. This alternative is being increasingly studied and implemented by utilities all over the world. I haven't seen any mention of it by PSE, but I could have missed it. The Lakeside substation might be a good location for such an alternative. A gas turbine peaking power plant is one such option; I have been told that PSE has dismissed this option because of noise issues, but I have not seen any of their studies, especially studies of how often such a plant would have to run to provide peak power under the extreme low temperature PSE uses in their worst case planning studies. Also, are there possible noise mitigation solutions?

My suggestions for the Bellevue City Council

- Ask PSE to provide more definitive studies of non-overhead transmission alternatives, including life-cycle costs of each alternative, including the currently recommended overhead 230 kV line
- Have PSE clarify the need for and timing of Energize Eastside. PSE has presented a chart showing their relevant transmission system will be overloaded in about 2017. But I don't know whether that is based on extreme or average temperature conditions. And, if it is based on extreme conditions, what is the probably and frequency of such conditions occurring?
- Some have questioned PSE's load forecasts. I am not so concerned about the load forecasts; the recent recession is over and major commercial development has been resumed in the Bellevue area, all of which is evidenced by the development of the Bellevue skyline, the presence of construction cranes, and the traffic! Load forecasting is more black art and judgment than science and is a forecast, not a fact. Load forecasts are not often spot on, but the error usually is in timing. Electric utilities prefer overbuilding than underbuilding - they consider it their mission to keep the lights on and a little time will take care of short term overbuilding!
- Have decision-level technical officials, not just PR vice-presidents and project engineers, meet with the Council and the public to respond to questions. Such officials should include senior power

supply and transmission engineers. My observation, based on having attended three public meetings with PSE present, are that PSE presentations have not been very effective as to clarity and completeness.

- Some have called for "independent" review of PSE's work. I question the need for this in most areas. PSE has retained well known, well qualified, outside engineers and other technical firms to make most of the studies upon which Energize Eastside recommendations are based. Of course these consultants are paid by PSE, just as an "independent" auditor usually is paid by the firm it is auditing. If these independent professional firms made it a habit of providing biased information directed by the companies retaining them, they soon would be out of business. That said, the outside consultants studied only what was asked of them. An independent review of the scope of work for the additional studies I have suggested and any others would be in order, in my opinion.

June 6, 2014 Masnari

To City of Bellevue

The following statement concerns me.

"EASTSIDE RAIL CORRIDOR Segment 4: Bellevue/Sound Transit Segment profile draft dated 7-10-13 addresses many challenges to sighting multiple uses in the corridor."

The following statement in the draft raises a few questions for me:

"Study pinch points and analyze alternatives for multiple use scenarios. Staff from King County, Sound Transit, and Puget Sound Energy have developed high-level dynamic "envelope" estimates for the typical clearances that are generally needed around and between different types of rail, trail, and utility facilities."
Begs the question what are the dynamic envelope estimates. Have the specific details of these elements been presented and discussed. Without those details we are allowing PSE to proceed on their project without a detailed understanding of how they will address the pinch point issues. The City of Bellevue, King County and Sound Transit need to make sure that PSE's use of the corridor does not result in future problems for trail and light rail projects.

Jeffrey Masnari

June 6, 2014 Hall

Subject: Energize Eastside

Dear City of Bellevue,
The proposed PSE project environmentally and emotionally devastates and divides the neighborhood character of our beautiful city of Bellevue. We would never want a city of industrial blight. The current report provided for this project was the best money could buy. It was funded by PSE to promote their

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own ends not Bellevue's needs. Please City of Bellevue, use a truly independent knowledgeable examiner to make unbiased assessments of this project and provide Bellevue government and it's citizens with the information and alternatives needed to make the wisest and most sensible decisions for our city that will endure for many, many years. Please use an independent examiner.

Thank you,
Michelle Hall

June 6, 2014 Baker

Subject: Alternative Suggestions to Current PSE Transmission Line Tower Routes

Recommend that the City Council look into possibility of partnering with Sound Transit to embed portion of transmission lines in tunnel infrastructure that will be developed for light rail in downtown Bellevue.

Also could partner with developers that will be developing the new Bel-Red corridor project, that would certainly be opening up a lot of earth during that massive building project.

Other idea would be to run the lines under Lake Washington in conjunction with new 520 bridge build-out, and tie line into the new tunnel structure over on the Seattle side being built for light rail. Can even work with Seattle City Light on this.

Another idea would be to re-locate the new transmission towers further East in lower population density areas, and run parallel to I-90 and submerge the lines under Lake Washington like they are now. If PSE says they need to build new towers, I can't imagine it would be much of a cost difference to move the towers further east where there would be less scenic blight, environmental, and health impact than the routes currently being proposed.

IF (and only if) the need for more power transmission lines is proved to be needed by an independent consultant who assesses REGIONAL power needs and confirms new lines are needed to address power demand, then do what you can with collaborative, creative partnerships like the above to get the lines buried in high density population areas like downtown Bellevue and surrounding neighborhoods, or get the towers moved out to low density population areas.

Thank you.

Paul & Julie Baker
Residents of Bellevue

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June 6, 2014 Burkholder

Subject: Eastside Energy needs and the community

To: Bellevue City Council, Bellevue City Planning and Community Development, Bellevue City Development Services

To whom it may concern,

We live at 1801 136th PL SE in Bellevue directly on route PSE designates as Route E. Our property directly abuts the existing 115KV Line.

My background is as an Electrical Engineer although I currently work in the software industry.

I purchased our home in 2009 with full understanding that I would be living next to a 115KV line. For me personally, it is relatively unobtrusive both visually and aurally. Most of my neighbors have a more negative view of the current line. In our home, although I am on the line, we don't see much of it and it is ENTIRELY silent which WILL dramatically change with a 230KV above ground line. Putting the aesthetics aside for a moment, the physics electrical fields at 230KV are such that line noise WILL happen and it will be incessant. At times it will be very loud and I provide a basic explanation on Corona Discharge Noise below that you may verify independently. We will hear the buzzing at quiet times when the humidity rises. This will be evenings and mornings as the temperature drops, as well as the dew point, and the relative humidity rises and when it rains. Pretty much every day, forever.....

As a business executive I am generally in support of the right for private businesses to make their own decisions. That being said, one of the REALLY important reasons that there is regulation in the power industry is to to provide some level of influence for customers who are captive and can not vote with their dollars. We have no ability to decide that PSE does not deserve our business and choose to deal with a provider that treats its customers better.

In principle, am entirely open to the need for additional transmission capability but with implementation on OUR terms. Undergrounding may be more expensive but short term thinking is NOT warranted here because we will live with this decision for another 100 years or more. Grid Storage is also a likely viable solution but also has environmental impacts. (I am speaking of Lithium Battery rather than pumped storage which requires water and reservoirs.) Our current transmission grid is NOT ready for high current "superchargers" in every home to support the burgeoning electric automobile market. (In order to have quick charge times you need high voltage and high current and I believe this will be the new defining domestic electrical load.)

I join my community members in encouraging you to exercise your abilities in driving transparency, fairness and our community desires into what has already proven to be a contentious relationship with PSE.

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In summary, ultimately I am quite willing to be rational in consideration of solutions that are at least no more obtrusive that what I have already been willing to live with but a new above ground 230KV Line ANYWHERE in Bellevue, is something I am vehemently AGAINST both aesthetically and from the perspective of line noise as well as my own home value and neighborhood experience.

In conclusion I have one immediate question. How can I help you in driving this to a viable solution for both the Bellevue Community and PSE?

Best Regards,

Eric S Burkholder

P.S.

A Primer on Corona Discharge Noise.

Powerline noise is one of the things that gives most people the willies about being near a powerline. The technical issue is about the the noise is created by small arcs of electricity on the outer surface of the conductor and we hear is as a incessant buzzing and popping. It happens as as a result of strong electromagnetic fields (EMF) on the surface of a conductor and is affected primarily by three factors.

1. The operating voltage of the line.
2. The size and shape of the conductor.
3. The dielectric(insulating) value of air.

Since the insulating value of air changes, mostly as a result of humidity, the higher the general humidity, the more often it will occur. We live in a humid environment with lots of rain and this makes this a bigger problem for us. In short, 115KV never causes Corona noise because it never exceeds the breakdown voltage of air on the surface of the conductor. 230KV and higher DOES cause issues and we WILL hear it. A response that our community has received from PSE, downplays the issue saying that it will likely be drowned out by “the Rain” but this is misleading. (perhaps not intentionally but perhaps it is...) We will hear the buzzing at quiet times when the humidity rises. This will be evenings as the temperature drops, as well as the dewpoint, and the relative humidity rises. Pretty much every day, forever.....

City of Bellevue
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June 6, 2014 Merrill

Subject: Energize Eastside Comments by John Merrill June 2014

John Merrill Comments To City of Bellevue regarding Puget Sound Energy's Proposed Energize Eastside High Voltage Transmission Lines
Emailed to energizeeastside@BellevueWA.gov on June 6, 2014

1. Puget Sound Energy's Proposed Power Lines Are An Affront To Our Values and Will Degrade The City's Beauty For Decades

The City and its citizens highly value:

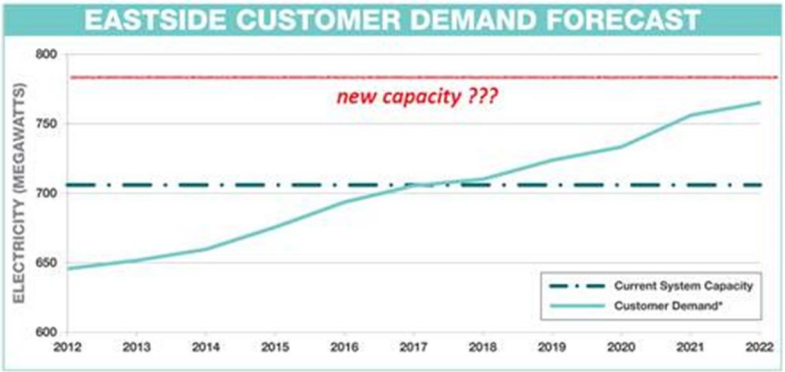
- Our beautiful City
- Livability
- Sustainability
- Innovation

Yet Puget Sound Energy (PSE) would blight Bellevue with power lines the size of 12 story buildings through the heart of many beautiful and livable 2 story neighborhoods. And it would saddle us, our children and grandchildren with miles of a monstrous eyesore visible from many points in the City in the form of 1960's technology, for the next 50+ years.

The City's Comprehensive Plan and numerous regulations seek to preserve the beauty, livability, natural environment and desirable character of our neighborhoods, but PSE's proposal tramples all over these City values and policies. We've documented our pride in being a progressive, livable, sustainable, high-tech and innovative city; we can do better and must hold PSE to the spirit and letter of City policy.

2. The Eastside Needs Only 15% More Peak Capacity Over The Next 20 Years

Both the City's 2012 Reliability Study and PSE's 2013 Integrated Resource Plan estimates peak load growth on the Eastside over the next 20 years will be 100 megawatts (MW) at most, including 50 MW downtown and 30 - 40 MW for Spring District expansion. These are aggressive growth assumptions, which should be thoroughly vetted and adjusted for the coming tsunami of "non-wire" solutions (more on that below), but I support growth, as does CENSE.



PSE's oft shown graph (above) shows the peak capacity of the existing 115kV system is about 700 MW. Thus the solution we need is a maximum of (700 + 100) 800 MW of peak power and peak demand growth is 100 divided by 700 or 14% above existing capacity. Let's call it 15% to be generous.

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3. PSE's "The Lights Will Start Going Out In 3 Years" Graph Is Misleading

What PSE does not explain when it shows its above graph of existing capacity and rising load is that the rising load line shown is peak load (not normal or average) which happens very rarely, only when the temperature is less than 13 degrees F and it is between 6 and 9 am or 4 and 7 pm and it is a weekday when we are all getting ready for work or school or arriving home at the same time.

Note also that PSE has not shared any historical peak load data on specific equipment which would allow other stakeholders to better understand the problem and the veracity of this graph.

4. We Have Time To Find A Much Better Solution For All Stakeholders

With this same graph, PSE's PR department has worked very hard to message "If you don't let us build what we propose, the lights are going to start going out in 3 years. And by the way, it will take 3 years to get it approved and built."

PSE has been anticipating load growth on the Eastside for decades. I submit that if PSE had the best interests of the City in mind, it would have announced its plans and begun its Community Advisory Group process much earlier, rather than waiting to spring their proposal on the Eastside in an atmosphere of imminent crisis of their own making.

The rising peak demand line on PSE's graph goes up at over 2% per year. However, the City's 2012 Reliability Study states that 1% per year is the reasonable average growth projection. If PSE's rising peak demand line were corrected to 1% per year, it would be apparent that we actually have time to find a better solution.

5. Right-Size The Solution

I have been told by both a UW electrical engineering professor and a former PSE transmission engineer that the transfer capacity of PSE's proposed 230kV system would be about 2,000 MW when conditions on the grid call for it. 2000 MW is a 185% higher than the existing 115kV system capacity of 700 MW, when what we need is a 15% increase in capacity.

What PSE is proposing to build through our neighborhoods is like an 8 lane energy superhighway. But do we really need a superhighway when just another lane would power our growth?

We don't have to tear down the existing 115kV system, we just have to add 15% more capacity. There are many better ways to provide 15% more power. Let's find a right-size solution to our challenge.

6. Hire An Independent Expert To Study The Alternatives

Like every other public corporation, the highest priority of PSE employees and consultants is to maximize the profits of its stockholders. PSE is not accountable to the City or its citizens, only to its

stockholders, the vast majority of whom are literally very far removed from the damage PSE would do in the City of Bellevue for decades to come. Moreover, PSE has proven unwilling to share the data needed to evaluate its proposed solution, even when the data is not protected by anti-terrorism laws. The neighborhoods do not have the resources to hire an independent expert. Only the City does. To protect our city from decades of industrial blight, you must hire an independent expert to thoroughly and transparently examine a.) the peak load data on specific equipment, outage assumptions, computer modeling and other information PSE is using to justify their proposal and b.) the alternatives to PSE's proposal.

Viable alternatives of which I'm aware include:

- Connecting directly to the Lake Tradition substation
- Upgrading the current 115kV system for additional capacity
- Partnering with Seattle City Light on SCL's existing right-of-way
- Undergrounding on PSE preferred and other routes
- Submerging in Lake Washington
- Installing one or more small natural gas-fired peaking stations
- Using "Non-wire Solutions", including more aggressive conservation, demand side management and distributed generation, to reduce forecasted peak load
- Some combination of the above

7. Have The Independent Expert Also Examine The Dual Nature Of PSE's Proposal

PSE, the Bonneville Power Administration and other Pacific NW utilities, collectively known as the "Columbia Grid", published a study entitled Updated Transmission Expansion Plan for the Puget Sound Area to Support Winter South-to-North Transfers in 2011. It states, on page 2, that PSE's plan to blight Eastside neighborhoods is the Columbia Grid's preferred plan to "significantly improve the ability of the transmission grid to support power transfers between the Northwest and British Columbia."

Is it a coincidence that in 2011, PSE also changed its plan to serve growth of the Eastside from a much less impactful connection to an existing BPA substation to the energy superhighway that would blight 18 miles of Eastside neighborhoods? Given the total transfer capacity of the proposed energy superhighway is around 2000 MW, when what we need for the next 20 years is only about 800 MW, the City needs clarity on the size issue and how it relates to the objectives of the Columbia Grid versus the needs of the Eastside. This should be done by an independent expert.

8. We Are A City Of Innovators and Non-Wire Solutions Will Limit Future Peak Load Growth

Bellevue and the Eastside are home to leading-edge technology companies, innovators and entrepreneurs. We take great pride in our commitment to preserving the environment and the natural beauty of the Eastside. PSE has proposed a solution that belongs in the last century. Meanwhile, communities in California, New York, Hawaii, New Jersey and elsewhere are investing in "non-wire solutions" which are safer and rapidly becoming less expensive than PSE's proposed solution. Non-wire

solutions fall generally into three categories: conservation, demand side management and distributed generation. Some technologies and programs in any of the three categories can be "Peak Load-Shaving".

PSE's conservation programs to date have been much less aggressive than those of comparable utilities which face not only transmission/distribution constraints but supply constraints as well. From what I have read, when it is less expensive for utilities to motivate their customers to conserve than it is to acquire new generation resources or contract to buy more power, utilities figure out how to reduce load significantly. With up to $300 million dollars of ratepayer money at stake, there is room to implement cost effective peak-shaving.

There are many demand side management programs effecting significant peak load shaving across the U.S. They can be a simple gadget that connects to electric hot water heaters and turns them off during rare peak load events. Customers are easily incented to do this with a small rate reduction during infrequent peak load events and free installation. PSE customers on Bainbridge Island recently created an innovative demand side management system which uses social media to let people know to not use the dishwasher or dryer during rare peak load events. Bainbridge had no power outages the first winter of the new program despite dire PSE warnings that they would have outages if they did not add an unwanted new substation.

The price of distributed generation, in the form of residential storage in particular, is dropping very rapidly, similar to solar' s historical price trajectory. 1,300 MW of storage has been mandated in California alone over the next 8 years. Non-wire solutions can be part of the medium and long term solution for the Eastside. We can lead the nation by the way we solve our energy needs.

While non-wire solutions are not yet a stand-alone solution to the challenges of facilitating the anticipated growth Downtown and in the Spring District, they will slow and then reverse peak load growth in the next 10 to 20 years, much less than the lifetime of PSE's proposed over-sized transmission project. The costs of non-wire solutions are dropping rapidly, on a trajectory similar to solar, and are being widely deployed already in other states.

The implications of non-wire solutions for projections of peak load growth on the Eastside in the next 10 – 20 years are profound and should be internalized by the City. In combination with a wired solution, which has significantly less capacity than the over-sized transmission line proposed by PSE, non-wire solutions will extend the efficacy of a lower capacity solution indefinitely. Non-wire solutions also demonstrate commitment to our shared values of a livable, sustainable, beautiful and innovative City, where a 12 story transmission line blighting our landscape for decades would be exactly the opposite.

The City must become educated on how quickly non-wire solutions are dropping in price and being widely implemented. That is another of the tasks for which we need outside, expert help.

9. The City of Bellevue Must Play the Role of Mediator

The City's website reads:
What is Mediation?

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Mediation is a voluntary process in which people in dispute meet with a neutral third party (a "mediator") who guides them through a structured and confidential negotiation. The goals of mediation include:

- clarifying the needs and desires of each party;
- establishing common understanding of important information; and
- reaching an informed and mutually agreeable solution.

Why choose mediation?
It works. People who mediate reach agreements about 70 percent of the time. People who try mediation generally value the opportunity to explain their perspective to the other party. Mediation can help people in conflict preserve good relations, and it provides a chance to find creative solutions rather than remain stuck in a tug-of-war. Mediation Services
Compared to litigation, mediation is:

- Quicker – mediations can generally be scheduled within a couple weeks, while trials are often scheduled a year after filing the case.
- Cheaper – our mediations are free; litigation can cost many thousands of dollars.
- Less stressful – you control the outcome in mediation. In court, the judge will dictate your fate.

I agree. The City must commit significant staff time to this controversy and, because it does not have the expertise in-house, must budget a significant amount of money to hire an independent expert in electrical transmission infrastructure matters to help it mediate this controversy and preserve the values of the City for generations to come.

Thank you for this opportunity to have my thoughts and ideas recorded in the official City record of the Energize Eastside controversy. I am optimistic that if the City hires an independent expert to thoroughly and transparently study PSE's data and the viable alternatives, we will find a solution that Bellevue can be proud of for decades to come.

John Merrill

June 6, 2014 Anderson

Subject: Detailed questions for PSE & Grid Battery deployments in CA, NY, HI (Energize Eastside Community Forum Feed back)

The following is the feedback from Todd Andersen Bellevue resident and homeowner at 4419 138th Ave SE 98006.

Given the host of the City of Bellevue community forum on Energize Eastside stated that he would hold open feedback until the end of Friday June 6th I took the opportunity to further refine the attached feedback.

Please find two attached documents.

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1. First is a list of 36 questions mainly for the City of Bellevue to ask PSE directly and report back via the City's website. However, it is important for key City Staff / Council to read all of these questions as they detail many key flaws in PSE's arguments using PSE's own documents.

A. That growth in power needs is not mainly local need when the 200 MegaWatts of new commitment on top of the current 400 MW to Canada is considered. See questions 8-12.

B. That more power is even actually need. See question 11 where PSE assumes 2858.6 MegaWatts of PSE and Seattle City lights generation capacity West of the Cascades is SHUT OFF. Yet Tacoma Power is left on. Of course the computer simulations are going to show the Sammamish and Talbot Hill transformers over heating a few days of the year. Garbage in garbage out. Really, PSE's work shows how much OVER capacity we still have left.

C. The details of PSE actively undermining the real solution of Grid batteries. The same undermining occurred in California by PG&E, Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas & Electric. So much so that in October 2013 California PUC unanimously approved Commissioner Carla Peterman's ground breaking proposal that requires these three for-profits to add 1,325 megawatts of Grid storage by 2020. The not-for-profits where already well on their way to add an additional +1000 MW of grid storage to solve peak load issues.

The questions also point to a few of the bigger areas were Bellevue's building code has not done its job.

2. The second attachment is brief overview of the active deployments Grid batteries in California, New York And Hawaii at capacities far greater than any Energize Eastside need. Included is a short list of key government documents and websites on grid storage for the City staff to get up to speed on grid storage particularly battery storage.

Lastly - PSE is wasting a lot of the Council members and City's staff valuable time on this false power need issue, at a time when the Council has many other pressing long term planning activities that need the City's immediate attention. Thus I urge the City to take PSE up on their offer of how to cost effectively defer PSE?s power line until 2021. See question 15 and related ones 13, 14 and 16 for details and references.

Best Regards,
Todd Andersen
Bellevue resident and Home owner

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June 6, 2014 Albert

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:
Apparently PSE has been working on this Energize Eastside issue for quite awhile. Back in 2010 they reported to the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) Planning Coordinating Committee (PCC) the following update for PSE projects:
"The project will involve installation of a 230-115 kV transformer at the Lake Tradition Substation. This transformer will address NERC planning criteria and provide additional capacity to serve the projected load growth in east King County and surrounding areas. This is an alternative to the preferred option of installing 230-115 kV transformer at Lakeside Substation. If the Lakeside transformer can be completed in a timely manner, the project at Lake Tradition may be deferred."
Why in 2014 is there the big panic now over Bellevue running out of power..... when this option is available even if it's not PSE's ideal solution?

What I don't understand is why PSE waited until the 11th hour to bring this to the attention of the community, especially in light of the current push back they are getting from the residential neighborhoods. I can only assume it was conceived in some part, whether intended or not, as a scare tactic to create panic and limit opposition for fear of running out of electricity....sort of what in sales you would call a "limited time offer."

When upgrading the 115kV lines from Talbot Hill to Sammamish was addressed in the Comprehensive Plan (Figure UT.5a) to 230kV, was anyone told by PSE the new lines were not going to be installed on the existing H frame structures, that new metal poles would be used, that the poles were going to be 135ft tall in homeowners back yards? I suppose those facts were probably not addressed. We should have had that discussion with the citizens back in 2010 when other options could have been investigated that the community would find acceptable and in line with the city's vision, "Bellevue 2035 - The City Where Youi Want To Be."

NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER:
I have been a resident of Bellevue since 1977, moving here from Tukwila. I have always been proud to be a Bellevue resident and proud of the direction the city's Councilmembers have taken the city. However, if this travesty of unsightly power poles and lines in the residential neighborhoods is allowed to happen I will be extremely disappointed. This is not the vision I would have hoped to see Bellevue carrying forward for future generations.

Just because PSE has rights to have the 115kV lines going thru our neighborhoods, something akin to grandfathered rights, doesn't mean that they can automatically expand those rights. If the existing power poles are 40ft tall, to assume they can substitute 135ft tall power poles is something the courts would need to decide. My guess is this as well as certain community lawful covenants regarding "view" protections may create substantial challenges and add delays to PSE's schedule. Maybe it might be wise to work with the community to find acceptable solutions.

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ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER:

1. Undergrounding following the BNSF track would be my favored option. Out of sight, limits EMF safety issues, not in conflict with the Olympic fuel pipeline, enhances Homeland Security electrical grid safety and protection.
2a. Rebuild Seattle City Light Sno-King power lines. These structures are mostly the old lattice type structures with 50+ year old conductors. New monopoles would be an improvement and installing bundled (two sets) of 1590 ACSR conductors would supply approximately 4x the existing capacity. To connect with the planned 230kV transformer at Lakeside would only require about 12 blocks of new power lines or Vernel 6 blocks or Westminister 8 blocks.
2b. Same as 2a. only underground.
3. Submerged lines in Lake Washington. I have heard PSE is using the straw horse argument that would require them to go thru a "Federal clean up" site where the old lumber mills were located. To my knowledge, where the shipyards were located in Elliot Bay the 'toxic' sites were covered over with fill dirt to encapsulate the shipyard contamination, the preferred method, and not to dredge it up as that would create more contamination than it solved.

Regarding the SCL line rebuild, I have heard PSE state that SCL needs their line for future growth. Two points. First, when SCL made their presentation to King County Council of the Round they discussed the areas where Seattle was experiencing growth and described all of the tower cranes visible in the sky....that area was south Lake Union and Ballard. How that has to do with the lines running thru the eastside is a mystery, and the fact that SCL doesn't even use the lines but BPA does in its absence. Second, if the lines were rebuilt with 1590 ACSR conductors supplying 4x the existing power, that would allow for not only BELLEVUE's power needs but Seattle's too well into the future....not just the next 10 years.

GENERAL COMMENTS:
At the Community Forum on Tuesday evening, I was a little disappointed to not to see any of the council members in attendance at the meeting. If they wanted to hear about the concerns of the neighborhoods I thought they might have wanted to listen in first hand rather that getting staff's summary of our opinions. I was glad to see Lynn Robinson in attendance in the meet and greet, good for her. I was also aware of Brad Miyake, Michael Brennan, Carol Helland, and Nicholas Matz.

Of the four, all seemed to be attentive to the speakers, occasionally taking notes, and generally appeared to be interested except for Nicholas Matz. I couldn't help but notice he was leaning up against the back wall near an exit with his head down and arms crossed for almost all of the meeting. This body language indicates to me that he has either heard it all before and isn't interested in rehearing the opinions of the neighborhoods; or has drunk the Jim Jones 'KoolAid' that PSE is espousing and his mind is already made up, it is all a forgone conclusion, he is not interested in our options and this is all a drill. I don't blame him, I kind of feel that way too at times, but I refuse to let PSE push their preconceived solution down our throat without having to take into consideration our values and ideas.

Sorry, I don't mean to be hurtful but this is important to us and we need people in the city to represent our side too. So if Nicholas is not able to be helpful in this process, then maybe the City Manager or

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Development Services Manager can find someone who can represent the residents before this process goes any further. We need the city to be our advocate, not PSE's.

Lastly, I can't let Andy Wappler throw out the 'million dollar homes' card in one of his latest PR speeches to imply social injustice if the lines were sent somewhere else rather than in our Bellevue neighborhoods. I don't understand where he gets off saying that when PSE has 6 or 8 lobbyists on their payroll; they bankroll city, county, and state candidates' political campaigns; and spend millions of dollars to fight citizens interested in converting their PSE energy supply into a PUD. If he wants to talk about social injustice, PSE is the big elephant in the room. Not the average working citizen, give me a break. Another Wappler whopper.

Respectfully,
Gary Albert

June 6, 2014 Dollard

This email relates to the Energize Eastside Project. I attended the Community meeting at Bellevue City Hall on June 3, 2104 during which you stated that if there was something we wish to add to the package of information provided to the City Council Members, we should email it to you by Friday, June 6, 2014.

My name is Mike Dollard and I live on Greenwich Crest along Segment H of the proposed Energize Eastside Project. Much of this area of the Bellevue along 120th Ave SE consists of cliffs and steep banks. I have lived there for over 20 years and during this time several of my neighbors' desired projects were unable to obtain permits due to much of their property being classified as Critical Areas under the Bellevue Land Use Code.

The proposed Energize Eastside Project identifies Segment H as a possible route for the transmissions lines and this route passes through these Critical Areas of cliffs and steep banks. I have attached excerpts from the Bellevue Land Use Code (Title 20) which states all development within the Critical Areas Overlay District must be reviewed and approved pursuant to this part in addition to being subject to all other relevant standards of the Bellevue City Code.

This section of the Bellevue Land Use Code controls the use of property identified as Critical Areas. This section identifies the requirements surrounding designation, Critical Area Buffers, Critical Area Reporting requirements, City Technical Review, and Independent third-party review.

I would like the Bellevue City Council Members to be aware of this title and the requirements contained therein. Accordingly I am referencing Title 20 of the Bellevue Land Use Code from this email and attaching an excerpt from the Code that I would like to pass on the Council Members.

Thanks for your assistance and review of the requirements of land identified as Critical Areas.

Very truly yours,
Mike Dollard

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June 6, 2014 Smilowicz

Subject: Public Comment on Proposed Plan
Gentlemen,

I'm writing regarding the proposed Energize Eastside project in the hope that these comments will be included in the public record that will be submitted to Bellevue City Council for their consideration. I've been a Bellevue resident for 30 years, living in the Newport Hills area that will be affected by the project. In addition, I practiced as a forensic accountant for over 30 years. Much of my work related to projections and forecasts like the ones presented by PSE as the basis for their requests. I'd like to comment on some of the points that grab my attention as a professional. They suggest that things aren't as straight forward as PSE's conclusions drawn would suggest.

First, here are the key conclusions and assumptions, some explicitly stated and some not:

1.) The system will soon reach capacity, most likely in 2017.
2.) A 230 KV system is needed to replace the existing 115 KV system.
3.) Rapid residential growth on the Eastside is the core cause.
4.) The replacement system must be above ground due to exorbitant costs elsewhere.
5.) The 230 KV system is the only feasible replacement.

Much could be said. I'll strive for brevity.

Point 1 regarding capacity: Growth in power usage is surprisingly modest, consistently below 2% annually and expected to stay there. We're not rushing up on capacity, but rather creeping up on it. Numbers below suggest that urgency is less than is being portrayed.

PSE has been consistently reporting growth in other sources in 3 forms, not just 1 as in the study given you. They typically show demand as "Base" (most likely), High, and Low. Their Low projections for future years shown in other sources are actually negative (2015) in some cases, and no higher than 1.2% in any year. The combined growth in electrical demand predicted from 2014- 2020 under the Low forecast is 4.7%, or less that 0.7% annually. The High forecast averages just over 2.0%, while the Base forecast is under 1.3%. Under the "Base" forecast, capacity wouldn't be approached until 2022. And this assumes that there is no option to expand capacity other than going to the 230 KV system. That isn't a true assumption.

Upgrades to existing lines and support structures can expand capacity. Improved software and line management may also be available, and engineers are using outboard energy storage in some electrical grids. All of these should be studied as possibilities. If the 115KV system can be expanded by just 10%, that would add another 8 years under the "Base" scenario before capacity is reached. The existing system will meet needs until 2022 under the "Base" scenario: a 10% expansion, if feasible, would extend that until 2030. A thorough analysis of these possibilities should be undertaken before any consideration is given to any project going forward.

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Another point worth noting is taken right from PSE's commentary. Future growth will be mainly in the Commercial and Industrial sector, rather than in residential. here are PSE's own words: "Residential load as a percentage of firm (system wide) load is expected to decline from 51% in 2012 to 46% in 2033..... "Commercial loads are expected to increase as a percentage of firm load from 43% in 2012 to 50% in 2033".

The power needs of Eastside residents are being cited as the driving force behind system expansion, but these figures indicate otherwise. In making judgments about what should be done, and who should pay for it, the primary beneficiaries should be understood. And it isn't the Eastside residents who are being asked to bear the brunt of the costs, monetary and otherwise.

My recommendations are to recognize this expansion isn't the urgent situation PSE depicts. There is time for good studies by independent parties like engineers and forensic accountants to tell you what is possible, when, and at what costs. The city can then pursue a very sound and well informed path, the kind of thing we expect from you. This is a great city and I have a world on confidence that you will do the right thing. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Henry Smilowicz

June 6, 2014 Jackson

June 6, 2014

City of Bellevue
Comment Card

Thanks for arranging the public forum opportunity! I hope you will respond to my letter at paj0505@yahoo.com.

General Comments:
I am very concerned about this proposal and the process of the proposal and the routes generated by PSE. I attended my first PSE meeting in late March (this is when our neighborhood first heard about it) and poured out my feelings and contact information but no one from PSE contacted me! Although they promised they would. I ask this question… does exclusion lead to cohesiveness and the best solution?

This is the first time I've written to you and I feel a strong need to do so.

I have deep roots and connection to Bellevue and King County. I grew up in Bellevue, 1952, in a rental house across from Bellevue Mall and then my family moved to Greenwich Crest around 1955. With out a doubt I had a wonderful childhood and youth, due in part to our great location near Lake Washington and the mountains and the very best school system. I had kind loving parents with lots of friends and

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good sharing time, fun and activities created in the neighborhood. Our parents were solid contributing citizens very involved in the church and the Bellevue Community. I have lived in Bellevue ever since except for a brief stay in Seattle for 7 years and college.

I've been a home owner here since 1998. One of the reasons I made the move back to Bellevue is because I was seeking the quality of life I recalled from my youth and when I had learned about the possibility of a trail and biking system going along the railroad corridor, I was very happy. Also Bellevue has always been progressive and I've enjoyed watching how carefully our growth is being handled. Now I walk everywhere I can along the lakeshores to the north and south, Factoria, and Bellevue. I've biked to Issaquah from my location. I really love this location and my neighbors. And I love Bellevue; it is so diverse and has successfully moved from a bedroom community to a looked upon financial center, great community to raise your family in and one of the best places in the nation to live!

Community engagement:
In my opinion PSE attempts at community engagement is almost too late. For the obvious reason if they really need the power when they say they do, the process needed to be started 4 years ago. And getting the word out has been sporadic and non-existent. As I said earlier I attended a meeting on March 26 because a neighbor happened to hear about it from another neighborhood. And when I walked into the meeting it seemed to me decisions had already been made. I understand PSE would like the neighborhoods to come up with good solutions and I also understand that getting information from PSE is very difficult or non-existent. I refer you to a document on the process down in Pierce County. (called Energize Pierce Country Plan 2011) This is a cohesive document that I can understand. But we didn't get this document during our meetings did we?

The City of Bellevue is attempting to help the citizens by giving us a voice. I realize this. And I want to Thank You!

Neighborhood Character:
I live in 'H" in Greenwich Crest. I am surrounded by nature. I grew up on this street and was in the 1970 graduation class at Newport High School. Everyone wanted to attend our school then and today I hear it is in top standing again.

When I first heard of the proposed PSE project I was horrified. That someone could possibly think this was a good thing for any residential area in any city, for any group of citizens to endure is beyond belief. Bellevue is a beautiful city; where else can you see the Olympics, Mt Rainier, the shores of Lake Washington with eagles and other birdlife and deer, raccoon, coyote and an occasional bear and bobcat and cougar. One neighbor claims to have seen a black wolf. The skyline of Seattle and the Space Needle are awesome views popping over Mercer Island. I often remark to others about the City of Bellevue skyline and how beautiful it is and how careful the planning has been so as to not make us into something none us wants. Bellevue is a "a park within a park "as someone said at the meeting tonight. He is right on; I had forgotten the phrase. I know I am lucky and fortunate to be living in the "H" part of the city. I am grateful! I still think back to the days when Native Americans came up to the shores of Lake Washington for berry picking while making their way up north. I love the Mercer Slough. The

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carefully picked native plants at the Environmental Center indicate a passage way into our past and the way of the future explaining the need for wetlands in our worldview. I walk and bike in the area often.

Even though I live on the lake side and would have an awesome year round view if I had removed trees a long time ago, I took stewardship of my trees on my property and my parents property before me very seriously. Some of my trees are over 200 years old. Because I live on a hillside I wanted to make sure my bank was stable. I was told by arborists and King County Conversation District that planting trees and leaving those in place are the best for a hillside such as mine. So instead of trying to make a better view, I realized all I had to do was walk down the street a bit and I would have a view. Or I could wait until all the leaves fell and be surprised in late fall of how beautiful the shores of Lake Washington can be. The surprise and wonder has always been with me while living in Bellevue because where I live nature is all around me. It is peaceful and serene and pleasant to look at; it is beauty unfolded for us to enjoy. So this is my backyard!

It is also the backyard to many travelers along 405. It is one of the gateways into the City of Bellevue as one drives north along 405. It is spectacular in the late fall and winter and I enjoy searching the shoreline for eagles along Lake Washington and then having the Bellevue skyline pop into view and the fall colors of the Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm. I can imagine the beauty of this drive along Lake Washington makes quite an impression on newcomers to the city or travelers from afar. Even though some of the trees seem to be disappearing, we are still the Evergreen State. And this is what is unique about this shoreline. It is accessible to all with two large parks and Newport Yacht Marina and Mercer Slough and a quick walk to Enati Beach.

<u>Public Health</u>:
I don't know a lot about EMF's but I think there is a body of growing evidence that says they do more harm than good. I think an independent party should research this aspect. . If I had children and was next to big lines, I would move. This is simply not safe technology to me. I would leave the area and relocate.

I've also learned that there would be noise associated with the lines and that it would be noisier near water and wetlands and when it rains. I remind you we do live in the PNW and I live specifically above Mercer Slough. So the noise and EMF's are concerns of mine. I already have plenty of noise with jets overhead and living so close to the water, traffic noise seems increased.

<u>Environmental Impacts</u>:
Our neighborhood (on the west hillside) has some step banks and sensitive areas along the railroad corridor. Some areas require a person to rope up to go down the bank to the railroad tracks. Some of us have more accessible routes down. Of course there have been slides on some of the properties.

There are very old trees on our properties and adjacent to the rail road corridor. (one arborist said 250-300 years old) maple, alder, fir and others.

There are wetlands at the bottom of the hill near the railroad tracks.

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The torrential downpours we've experienced over the past half dozen years do move things (soil) around quite a bit. On my property, some of the soil seems to be shifting with the increased rain and grade adjustments made on neighboring properties.

Taking down 1000 trees to accomplish the PSE goal makes no sense to me. It could destabilize the bank and ruin habitat for animals, plant and aquatic life!

Alternatives:
Underground or underwater placements are possibilities and I realize not without their problems. Use of existing lines and or going over commercial sites may be a better option than through residential sites in the middle of the city. Going through agriculture land is a good option too as I have seen this done in other countries.

Going through mountains may be appropriate especially since the power is moving from Canada to Northern California. I am a heavy recreational user of our mountain trials; even then it is creepy to come across power lines and I walk quickly through these areas to get away from the noise and the uncertainty that the structure may fail. I will not go under big power lines set up on trail systems in the city.

Perhaps a more creative solution could come from the community if a special fund was established for expertise to really brainstorm the issue. A creative prize and approach may just be the ticket!

Need for Expanded Capacity:
So many conflicting data coming out of this now…what is the truth?

One last comment:

Be careful with nature! When the power lines go up they will never be taken down. I want our children to enjoy nature in the city!

My name is Peggy Jackson and my email is paj0505@yahoo.com. My neighborhood is "H".

June 6, 2014 Judkins

I have lived in Somerset fir 29 years. The power lines are in my yard nehind my home and across the street with Olympic Pipeline running down the street between the power piles. I do not want taller pier poles on six foot cement platforms in my yard

Kathy Judkins

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June 6, 2014 Smith

I recently served as a member of the South Sub-Area Committee, and attended all meetings and PSE presentations. The meetings were part of the public outreach of PSE. I've attended additional meetings as well, including the community forum this week at Bellevue City Hall.

Undoubtedly you have heard much about the meetings. While outreach to the public could be laudable, these meetings struck most as merely window dressing -- a strategy for PSE to state public input was involved, while utilizing flawed opportunities for feedback and pitting one geographical group against the other in determining preferences regarding PSE's pre-selected routes. Citizen input quickly established neither route was acceptable.

It is very difficult to expand infrastructure without negative impacts in a built environment. PSE proposes two routes having substantial negative impacts and utilizing outmoded design. It is incumbent upon PSE to select routes that have the least negative impacts. The two routes proposed by PSE would plunge property values in desirable neighborhoods, strip a vast amount of trees (many of which are stabilizing steep slopes), diminish the natural beauty of several parks, by sheer close proximity expose some homes to EMF at close range, trump the opportunity to have the long-awaited "world-class public trail" along the former B-N railroad corridor by creating instead a 100'-wide clear-cut corridor with power poles.

I urge that a submarine installation (in Lake Washington) be explored, as an alternative for most of the route. The submerged line would bypass most of the built environment and could reconnect with land at less objectionable locations. This would spare many of the undesirable impacts of a surface (pole) installation throughout the entire built environment. A public information process would be needed to educate the region, but submarining is being used increasingly in the country as an alternative to the blight caused by transmission power poles.

I also urge that the municipalities (Bellevue, Renton, Newcastle; Kirkland and Redmond) work together collaboratively -- for several reasons. As unified a voice as possible among the cities will make for more effective negotiating with PSE. Furthermore, in collaborating it could be possible to look at a variety of resources and potentially pool resources to come up with additional alternatives. For example, in partnering, some costs could be spread across a larger base in creating financial formulas to produce a financially feasible proposition to PSE. Bonding capacity could be explored to figure out how to share some costs.

I had the pleasure of conferring with Tim McHarg, City of Newcastle Community Development Director, who also was on the South Sub-Area Committee and now serves on the CAG for Energize Eastside. He was definitely in support of creative collaboration and favored the concepts expressed above. I would hope Tim would be a part of a wider discussion with the affected municipalities.

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This is a time for expanded solutions that serve the Eastside far better than the proposed routes. I urge Bellevue, in its prominent position, to join forces with others... and to firmly and effectively advocate for a much better solution to providing additional energy for the Eastside!

Margot N. Smith
Bellevue

June 6, 2014 Chao

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a resident at 105 118th Ave SE, and I growing considerably concerned with the proposal to run High Voltage Transmission Lines just south of my residence.

PSE's Route F will create aesthetic concerns, and I am concerned about the unknown potential long-term health effects from the electromagnetic radiation.

I strongly advise considering alternative options that do not impact your residents and that support the long-term beauty of this city.

Regards,
Alex Chao

June 6, 2014 Choi

Subject: PSE power lines

To whom it may concern

I would like to make sure these comments get included into the report to the Bellevue city council.

As a Bellevue citizen, I expect my city council to ensure that any plans that would materially impact the city is thoroughly vetted. My observation so far is that PSE has not seriously considered and explored all options to assess and meet power needs. As a citizen of Bellevue, I beg the council to aggressively do it's due diligence and not let it get pushed around by this big company. This includes validating if the extra power lines is for the immediate region or for Canada or other regions. And to confirm that alternatives were fully researched in the interest of the community and not just the profitability of the company. It will leave a very bad taste in our mouth's if we allowed ourselves to be asleep at the wheel on this matter.

Thank you,

Eugene Choi

City of Bellevue
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Input & Feedback Received

June 9, 2014 Mall, Omstead

Subject: Energize Eastside Feedback from Woodridge

This email is quite long, and contains an extensive list of concerns. You will see this is far more material than we could have presented in 3 short minutes at the city council meetings. We hope that you will read this email thoroughly, including the links to reference materials. We welcome the opportunity to discuss further by email, phone or in person.

We have so many issues and concerns with how PSE is handling "Energize Eastside" that we hardly know where to start. It is imperative that the Bellevue City Council get involved, slow PSE's proposed schedule and very closely monitor and control PSE. The one common thread through all of the points we will raise is that PSE is in this to make money for themselves; they do not have the best interest of Bellevue in mind.

1) PSE released to the public only a subset of the available options to connect Redmond and Renton with new transmission lines.

- They seem to be ignoring options that use their existing transmission lines and existing rights of way. As an example, PSE has lines today along NE 24th St that are along the road, where trees have already been pruned for access. Yet using this right of way is not one of the options they are considering, PSE could use this existing right of way for new towers, or they could use the right of way for underground– just as one example.
- At their own admission, PSE made only a single inquiry to Seattle City Light about using their towers and/or their right of way. PSE simply turned away when they were told no. The City of Bellevue needs to pursue this option vigorously. We as citizens were not given the option to tell PSE no, as Seattle City Light did.
- Are there even more options to consider? For example, as WSDOT continues construction along I-405, leverage some of the disruption to bury lines. What other options are they keeping to themselves?
- PSE has a history of lying. http://sane-eastside-energy.org/2014/04/30/pse-fined-1-25-million-in-falsifying-gas-pipeline-safety-inspection-reports-for-4-years-running/ At the very least they need to be closely regulated. Perhaps even de-throned and replaced.
- PSE needs to re-read their own code of ethics and "do the right thing" https://pse.com/aboutpse/CorporateInfo/Pages/Our-Ethics.aspx
- Renton has the same issues and concerns – city government needs to be united and supporting residents. http://sane-eastside-energy.org/2014/04/22/renton-mayor-and-city-councilmembers-aim-pointed-questions-at-pse/

2) PSE seems to have adopted a strategy designed to make neighbors fight against one another. PSE wins in any case. We need to be uniting our neighborhoods for the good of the city, not fighting among and against each other.

- In one of the workshops, PSE had attendees complete a survey that rated the various segment options. It is no surprise that residents of a neighborhood rated the option(s) in or near their neighborhood as undesirable, and options that did not impact their neighborhoods as more

desirable. Clearly the neighborhoods with more attendees at the meeting come out looking less desirable. This methodology is highly flawed and completely subjective. The survey should never have been issued, yet PSE to uses the "data" from this survey. With methods like these, how can anything that they tell us be trusted?

- PSE mocked up photos to show residents what the proposed segments might look like with powerlines superimposed, these photos were incomplete at best, showing only small sections of the proposed routes and inaccurate pole height and proportions. We would argue that some of these photos were outright misleading, showing an image with minimal visual impact from powerlines, when just a few feet over on the same segment, the visual impact would be obvious.

3) Andy Wappler is a paid spokesperson for PSE – We hope that no one on the city council is influenced or impressed that he had a public presence in Western Washington. He is a PSE employee and he is deliberately trying to make PSE look like a "partner", while vilifying Bellevue neighborhoods. Refer to the Seattle Times article on June 1: (http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/2023747543_undergroundpowerlinesxml.html)where Andy Wappler talked about "Bellevue Millionaires". The neighborhoods impacted are certainly nice neighborhoods, but we are not talking about millionaires. Many homes and homeowners in potentially impacted neighborhoods have lived there for decades. Diminishing property values has a tremendous negative impact. Furthermore, PSE seems to be avoiding proposing segment options that impact the more expensive West Bellevue neighborhoods. At the same time, PSE claims that they cannot allow property values to impact their decision. They are talking out of both sides of their mouth. At the meeting at the Hilton in May, when asked about using the NE 24th corridor, a PSE employee even stated that they did not want to do anything to upset the Bridle Trails neighborhood because of the money and influence there.

4) PSE is a foreign company; they are NOT a pubic-owned utility accountable to residents and customers. They are in the business to make a profit. They have not demonstrated that these lines are needed for local power, they have stated that they will be exporting power beyond the Redmond-to-Renton Corridor, using the infrastructure that we subsidize through our rates, and with power lines that we have to look at. Quality of life, and property values are of no concern to PSE. They will make their money regardless of which of the options are selected, and as they are a monopoly, we will have no choice but to look at their lines.

5) Decades ago, Bellevue neighborhoods had the foresight to place electrical **distribution** lines underground. Forty-plus years later the same consideration must be given to electrical transmission lines. Limiting proposals to above ground transmission lines is outdated. PSE dismissed underground based on cost – they only seem willing to discuss underground options if neighborhoods PRE-PAY for all underground work. The costs that PSE is quoting for underground lines are vastly inflated –here is one example from Wisconsin http://psc.wi.gov/thelibrary/publications/electric/electric11.pdf). And another from California http://sane-eastside-energy.org/2014/05/30/california-does-it-right-high-voltage-poles-dismantled-and-lines-go-underground/. PSE needs to be looking at this project and the associated cost more realistically, they also need to more fully explore underground options, at their own cost. They should be investing in the community and in the long term growth of their business. No other business

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has the ability to push costs off to customers IN ADVANCE, other businesses invest in their own future. As long as Bellevue continues to be a desirable city, with beautiful neighborhoods that have unobstructed site lines, PSE can expect new residents and increased revenue over time. They should be investing in our neighborhoods for the long term, their customers should not be paying for their future profits.

6) PSE customers already pay higher rates than Seattle City Light and Snohomish PUD customers

7) PSE is not forthcoming with information. We have made several very specific requests that have gone unanswered:

- By contacting PSE *outside* of the Energize Eastside meetings, we were given a map of the existing PSE transmission lines including Seattle City Light. In a community meeting for Energize Eastside (CAG), we asked a PSE staff member for a map that shows existing PSE lines overlaid with the proposed segments on the same map. First we were told that there were no maps of the existing lines; when we showed the PSE employee the map we had with existing lines, she first said that we shouldn't have it, then backpedaled. She promised to email us a map with both current and proposed lines, and that email never came.
- What are the actual heights of the poles needed for proposed lines (the trestle at SE 8th is 102ft tall so 120ft pole is not going work. It would be more like a 230ft in this area of proposed route. WE cannot get accurate measurements from PSE.
- When asked about buffers for the 230Kv lines by a city council member the only thing mentioned was the 15ft. height issue. PSE conveniently omitted the 100ft width issue. Telling partial truths is a pattern time and again with PSE reps.

8) The Wilburton Trestle is on the state historic registry and may very well qualify for the National Historic Registry.

9) EMF, real or perceived, ***is*** going to effect the values of those homes along any of the proposed routes. Ask any Realtor if EMF is an issue and they tell you many people will not look at home that are near power lines. This will directly affect the monies the city receives for property taxes.

Thank you for taking the time to read our concerns. We hope we can count on our elected officials to stand up to PSE, and do right by Bellevue residents.

Natalie Mall
Kent Olmstead
Woodridge residents since 2000

City of Bellevue
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June 9, 2014 Sundermeyer

Dear sir:

Your proposal to ruin the entrance to wonderfully wooded Bridle Trails defies logic. It will be very deleterious to property values because of its noise pollution and traffic congestion. It should be put in another site to not ruin the core integrity of the Bridle Trails neighborhood.

I says this based on the experience of 23 years if a very successful real estate career in this area.

Nada Sundermeyer, 18 straight years in the top 1% of Johm L. Scott's 4,000 agents.

June 9, 2014 Moy

Mike,

I know that this follow up is past the Friday deadline, but I hope that it will also be considered.

I would like to also encourage solar power as another alternative option. I recently had a site assessment done on my home, and am planning to proceed with a PV solar array on my home, which should offset more than 1/3rd of my annual energy consumption.

The cost of my project comes to basically $4 per W. I would imagine a larger scale commercial installation would be even cheaper than a residential installation. Regardless, at $4 per W, it would cost $300M to cover the projected ~75MW shortfall that PSE projects thru 2022. This is in the same relative price range that PSE estimates for the overhead power lines (est $150-290M).

With the current tax and production incentives in place, I should break even on the costs of this system in less than 5 years.

I think solar could be a win-win solution for everyone. For PSE, they could become installers/servicers of residential and commercial solar arrays and generate additional revenue through this business. For homeowners and businesses that have solar panels installed on their property, they will actually save money in the long run. For all Eastside residents and the cities, we would not see the industrial blight of overhead powerlines, but instead see masses of solar panels on Eastside rooftops, which would be a beacon to our area demonstrating technological progress and a commitment to clean, safe energy.

Thanks,
Jamie

City of Bellevue
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Input & Feedback Received

June 9, 2014 Allred and Braun

Hello Mike,

We attended the June 3rd meeting at City Hall but did not have time to submit comments at the time. Thank you for the opportunity to speak out on this important issue. Hopefully its not too late for our comments...

Community Engagement:

- PSE's community engagement was too late. It was bad PR to reduce the choices to 2 routes before involving the public.
- The way they organized the discussions into neighborhood groups seemed to be pitting neighborhoods against each other.
- Their process of collecting "neighborhood values" as input to their decision was absurd and not well received.

Neighborhood Character:
These power lines do not belong in any neighborhood. Power lines of this size are usually routed in remote or hidden areas and surrounded by wide clearances, or routed through industrial areas. They will be visible from far away and spoil the character of any neighborhood they run through.

Environmental Impacts:
Bellevue being the "City in a Park" must minimize loss of trees and resist encroaching industrial blight.

Alternatives to Consider:
PSE has picked the simplest, cheapest, and most familiar solution to meet a worst case demand estimate. They have not even costed out modern power distribution solutions and demand management techniques. They should at least provide a cost estimate for the following solutions so we can estimate how much of a $/kwh increase we would see on our bills:

- underground
- storage batteries
- demand-side management
- aggressive conservation campaigns and techniques
- innovative solar installation such as mentioned in article below

We need to at least consider city and/or or neighborhood level funding to cover the additional cost if it is found that the additional power capacity is needed.

Need for Expanded Capacity:
PSE has not convinced the public that the extra capacity is needed for the east side. Most believe they are trying to build out their capacity by using falsified eastside growth projections as a justification. Their growth numbers don't agree with regional planner's estimates. They haven't discussed anything about conservation. They claim to have included conservation into their growth estimates but

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conservation technology is accelerating with solar power, demand-side management techniques, and more energy efficient and smart lighting, such as sensor controlled LED lighting.

2 articles to consider:
- Will demand for electric power fall? Yes, if net-zero subdivisions catch on
- Why Google, Comcast, and AT&T Are Making Power Utilities Nervous

General Comments:
PSE has lost credibility and will not convince the neighborhoods that that these power lines are justified, no matter how much technical detail they provide. I think its a waste of time to dwell on technical justification. Instead they must:
- Justify the need for increased capacity, and if successful in justifying…
- Provide cost estimates for less invasive solutions and help come up with creative financing

Thank you,

Curtis Allred and Barbara Braun