

## Resolution In Support Of A Coal Free Puget Sound Energy

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3 **WHEREAS** the Washington State Democratic Party Platform calls for “Immediate  
4 aggressive action to minimize climate change, as global climate change is the foremost  
5 threat to survival of Earth as we know it;”  
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7 **WHEREAS** President Trump has decided to withdraw from the Paris Climate Accord,  
8 necessitating further climate action at a local level;  
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10 **WHEREAS** Puget Sound Energy (PSE) is Washington’s largest energy provider and the  
11 largest owner of the Colstrip coal plant in Eastern Montana;  
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13 **WHEREAS** the Colstrip plant is the biggest single source of carbon pollution in the  
14 Northwest and the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest carbon polluter in the United States in 2015, releasing  
15 over 15 million metric tons of greenhouse gases annually, according to the EPA;  
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17 **WHEREAS** PSE’s long-term plans currently call for Colstrip to be replaced almost  
18 entirely with new natural gas plants;  
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20 **WHEREAS** this gas would be produced via “fracking,” a violent process used to extract  
21 gas deposits from shale rock formations, which contaminates drinking water and  
22 pollutes the air;  
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24 **WHEREAS** leakages of methane gas at all stages of extraction, production, and  
25 transport mean fracked gas could be as harmful to a stable climate as coal is;  
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27 **WHEREAS** prices for wind and solar energy continue to drop; and  
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29 **WHEREAS** investments in these technologies will contribute to the creation of  
30 thousands of green jobs in Washington State and provide price stability to PSE  
31 customers;  
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33 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic Central  
34 Committee calls for PSE to retire the remaining boilers at the Colstrip plant by 2025 and  
35 to commit to replacing them with 100% renewable energy and no new gas;  
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37 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Washington State Democratic  
38 Central Committee will inform the Washington State Democratic Congressional  
39 delegation of this position.  
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41 Submitted by the Environment and Climate Caucus on 9/9/17.

42 The Resolutions Committee recommended that the resolution be sent to the floor.

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44 The Washington State Democratic Central Committee referred the resolution back to  
45 the Resolutions Committee for consideration at the January 2018 meeting.

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47 The Environment and Climate Caucus submitted an updated version of this resolution  
48 for consideration at the Washington State Democratic Central Committee January 2018  
49 meeting in Bellingham.

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51 The Resolutions Committee reviewed the resolution and recommended that it be  
52 passed.

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54 The Washington State Democratic Central Committee approved this resolution on  
55 1/28/18.