



Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods
for Sensible Energy

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**FINAL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT STATEMENT RELEASED FOR ENERGIZE EASTSIDE STILL IGNORES
WASHINGTON STATE'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY GOALS**

Energy experts will propose alternatives at public hearings later this year

Bellevue, WA – The Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy (CENSE) welcomed the release of the Energize Eastside Final EIS on March 1. The grassroots group has been seeking alternatives to Puget Sound Energy's proposed new high-tension lines through Bellevue, Newcastle, Renton, and Redmond. Washington State law requires thorough environmental reviews of projects with significant community and environmental impacts.

Don Marsh, President of CENSE said, "We're pleased that the EIS has been published after nearly three years of review. However, we've identified some problems."

According to CENSE, the final EIS provides no alternative solutions to PSE's proposed 230 kV transmission line through the Eastside cities. The report supplies little justification for building the \$300 million project.

Marsh said, "Most important, PSE's proposal ignores Washington State's environmental policy goals. Advanced technology can improve electrical reliability, reduce carbon emissions, and save money for customers. CENSE is ready to work with PSE and our elected officials to create an energy grid that benefits people and the environment."

CENSE has retained energy experts to testify at the public hearings that will be held in each city in coming months.

Robert McCullough, a Portland, Oregon energy economist whose investigative work led to criminal convictions of Enron after the California energy crisis in 2001, said, "PSE still relies on twentieth-century technology, instead of twenty-first century options like battery storage and smart technology. PSE should stop using outdated technology to serve one of the world's most vital technological centers."

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Coalition of Eastside Neighborhoods for Sensible Energy (CENSE), a nonprofit, nonpartisan volunteer organization founded in 2014, has members in the four Eastside cities that will be impacted by PSE's Energize Eastside project.