

SECTION 6: INTRODUCTION

Alternatives

Recent electrical demand forecasts do not indicate a need for additional electrical infrastructure on the Eastside. If demand does start to increase, incremental site-specific technologies would be far more cost effective and less damaging to communities and the environment than Energize Eastside.

PSE's evaluations of alternative technologies were outdated even at the time of analysis. In the past six years, many utilities have invested in cost-effective technologies that PSE dismissed. PSE erred by evaluating each technology (such as batteries, demand response, and electrical efficiency) as a stand-alone solution rather than as an element of an integrated resource approach.

In 2019, the Washington legislature passed the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA). This landmark law seeks to achieve a cleaner energy grid using renewable resources, smart technology, and conservation policies that will also reduce Eastside peak demand. It makes no sense for customers to pay for a transformed grid as well as a 20th-century transmission line that addresses the same needs.

An additional report examines the under-explored option of using the existing 230 kV transmission lines owned by Seattle City Light that closely parallel PSE's power lines through Renton and much of the Eastside.

Table of Contents

- 6.1 Supreme Court Decision on "Demand Response" Written by Justice Kagan
Jan Medley, CENSE
- 6.2 Bonneville Power Administration Decision to Cancel I-5 Corridor Project
Karen Esayian, CENSE
- 6.3 ColumbiaGrid and Seattle City Light Connection
Karen Esayian, CENSE