



PublicService Commission &lt;psc@utah.gov&gt;

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## Don't build fossil fuels to meet growing power demand

1 message

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**Joan Gregory** <joanmzg@gmail.com>  
To: psc@utah.gov

Mon, Apr 1, 2024 at 8:04 AM

Dear Commissioner Harvey,

I'm a grandmother who wants a livable future for my children and grandchildren.

The New York Times reports that overall U.S. energy demand is rising for the first time in more than a decade. To address this, we need to employ creative solutions that make our energy grid cleaner—NOT build more fossil fuel infrastructure!

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2024/03/13/climate/electric-power-climate-change.html>

We have made great progress in recent years on increasing our use of clean energy and clean technologies like electric vehicles—part of the reason power demand is growing. But now, many utilities are planning to extend the life of old coal and gas plants, and build numerous new ones, in order to close the gap.

This is a grave threat to our climate goals, which we desperately need to meet in order safeguard a livable future.

Instead of building more fossil fuels, we should be rushing to expand renewable energy. The Inflation Reduction Act makes wind and solar, which are already the cheapest power sources in history, even more of an economic no-brainer.

Additionally, we should be looking for ways to get more out of the power infrastructure we have, including expanding the capacity of transmission lines and building more utility-scale storage. We should also pursue opportunities to reduce power demand, including passing strong building efficiency codes and appropriately regulating the buildout of data centers and other power-gobbling entities.

In this pivotal moment for our energy future, please help us find innovate ways to meet growing power demand without sacrificing our planet in the process.

Sincerely,  
Joan Gregory  
Salt Lake City, Utah