



CITY OF  
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

UE-220294

May 25, 2022

via email: [comments@utc.wa.gov](mailto:comments@utc.wa.gov)

Amanda Maxwell, Executive Director and Secretary  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

Regarding: Docket Number 220294

Dear Ms. Maxwell,

The City of Bainbridge Island (COBI) is pleased to offer this letter of support for Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) tariff filings for Fleet and Commercial, Residential Multi-Family, Load Management and Education and Outreach programs to advance transportation electrification in our region. These programs will facilitate and accelerate meaningful reduction in carbon emissions from Washington's transportation sector, with benefits for all communities in the form of greater access to electric mobility, cleaner air, and the conveniences of advanced technology.

COBI's 2020 Climate Action Plan adopted a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions 25% by 2025, 60% by 2030, and 90% by 2045, compared to a 2014 baseline. Transportation is responsible for approximately 34% of community greenhouse gas emissions on Bainbridge Island and transitioning to electric vehicles is a key strategy in support of our climate action goals. Our Climate Action Plan identifies specific actions to both increase the number of electric vehicles on the island and to install charging infrastructure across municipal locations and in commercial centers on the island. That includes specific goals to transition COBI's fleet to 75% electric vehicles by 2025 and transition 80% of registered vehicles on Bainbridge Island to either electric vehicles or plug-in hybrid electric vehicles by 2045. Widespread, cost-effective, and equitably accessible charging infrastructure located in commercial, multi-family, and single-family properties is critical to help us meet these goals.

PSE's Fleet & Commercial program will address the immediate needs of the fleet owners like COBI that are pursuing electrification of their fleet vehicles in a rapidly evolving market. Our organization could greatly benefit from PSE program offerings for fleet advisory services, turnkey infrastructure incentives, and charger incentives to offset the costs of the transition to an electric fleet.

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The EV charging solutions provided by PSE's expanded Residential Multi-Family program will meet the charging needs of EV drivers living outside single-family housing while also improving marketability for property owners and managers.

To help mitigate potential negative impacts of these new electric loads on PSE's distribution system, COBI believes that the Load Management program will encourage charging outside of peak time periods, while also providing us with the flexibility to modify charging decisions to best support our operations if necessary.

COBI affirms the importance of ensuring equitable access to transportation electrification and its benefits. PSE's programs will not only provide robust financial incentives for highly impacted communities, vulnerable populations, and the community-based organizations, government agencies and tribal entities that serve them, but also offer education and technical assistance to address the range of barriers to equitable access.

COBI supports PSE's efforts to address the urgency of establishing charging infrastructure and to further advance EV adoption. Approving PSE's Fleet & Commercial, Multi-Family Residential, Load Management, and Education and Outreach program tariffs are a tangible next step toward realizing an electrified transportation future.

We appreciate the opportunity to support PSE's proposed filings and look forward to working with them to accelerate EV and charging adoption.

Sincerely,



Blair King  
City Manager

cc: Mayor and City Council  
Climate Change Advisory Committee  
Autumn Salamack, Climate Mitigation & Adaptation Officer