## **Dow Constantine**

King County Executive

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800 Seattle, WA 98104

206-296-9600 Fax 206-296-0194 TTY Relay: 711 www.kingcounty.gov

July 25, 2018

Mark L. Johnson **Executive Director and Secretary** Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission P.O. Box 47250 1300 S Evergreen Park Dr. SE Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Puget Sound Energy Schedule 139 Tariff Revision, Docket UE-180544

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in response to Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) filing to update the Green Direct Program (Schedule 139). I support the revised and updated Green Direct Program as proposed by PSE. The proposed changes will result in the production of more renewable electricity in our region, and the blended wind and solar resource pricing is equitable and predictable.

Confronting climate change and accelerating a transition to a clean energy economy is a top priority for King County, partner cities, and the Port of Seattle. We have established shared, formal targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050. King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) partners have also mapped out a set of Joint County-City Climate Commitments to get the region on track toward these ambitious targets. To meet these climate goals, King County and signatories to the K4C Joint Commitments have set a target of increasing countywide renewable electricity use to 90 percent by 2030, working with utilities and regulators to phase out coal-fired electricity sources by 2025, and replacing coal with renewable energy sources.

I and K4C partners have sought new renewable energy purchase options, and I appreciated the work by PSE and the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) to establish the original Green Direct program and Schedule 139 in 2016. Renewable electricity generation projects, such as those developed to supply the electricity for Green Direct, are key to achieving our climate goals, and help support and expand our state's clean energy economy.

COMMISSIO

Records Management

Mark L. Johnson July 26, 2018 Page 2

I appreciate PSE's leadership in developing and updating the Green Direct program that provides an option for local governments and large commercial customers to make progress towards our renewable electricity goals. The county's long-term interest is in the expansion of renewable energy supplies for all customers in the region, and I look forward to continuing to work with PSE and the UTC to meet county and regional renewable energy and climate change goals.

Sincerely,

**Dow Constantine** 

King County Executive

cc: Rachel Smith, Chief of Staff, Office of King County Executive

> April Putney, Director of Government Relations, Office of King County Executive Megan Smith, Director of Climate and Energy Initiatives, Office of King County

Executive

Dow Constantin