



UE-230287

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May 17, 2023

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

Regarding: Docket Number: UE-230287

Dear Ms. Maxwell:

Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County is pleased to offer this letter of support for Puget Sound Energy's (PSE) tariff filings for Residential Single-Family Charging, Public Charging, and Workplace Charging; as well as Alternative Technology Demonstration pilots to advance transportation electrification in our region. These programs are essential to facilitating and accelerating meaningful reduction in carbon emissions resulting from Washington's transportation sector. All communities stand to benefit from PSE's programs in the form of greater access to electric mobility, cleaner air, and the conveniences of advanced technology.

Our organization serves youth ages 3-18, and their families, at 11 locations spanning from Anacortes to Concrete, WA. Our mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as caring, productive, responsible citizens. With continued impacts related to climate change likely affecting the current generation we serve greater than any other, we take every opportunity to integrate responsible energy practices and show leadership not only to other youth development organizations but our community in general. Currently, we are conducting research into practical uses of electric vehicles within our fleet in hopes of that integration occurring within the next five years.

In my role, I am asked often to participate in focus groups and/or taskforces because of the constituency we serve. Representation is important, and too often, circumstances would limit our families' ability to participate and have their voices heard. As always, I provided significant feedback, but, for the first time, when the report was issued and ideas for change put forth, I clearly saw that feedback integrated in a way that would be incredibly meaningful for our members and their families, most specifically:

- PSE's Single Family Residential program will address the needs of the growing number of homeowners who are deciding between electric or traditional ICE for their next vehicle. This program stands to help limited-income households, served by organizations such as ours, better understand and navigate a rapidly evolving marketplace of new and pre-owned electric vehicles and install charging infrastructure at little to no cost. The Single Family Residential program includes additional incentives to offset electrical upgrade costs for older homes and connects residents with trusted installation partners.
- The EV charging solutions provided by PSE's expanded Public charging program will help meet the charging needs of EV drivers living, working, and visiting businesses in our community, while also helping our community meet its own clean energy goals. The program supports curbside charging installations, makes space for customers interested in multi-purpose charging stations (e.g. fleet, public and workplace), and supports diverse charging installation siting (in business districts, residential neighborhoods, parks and community centers).



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- The Workplace charging solutions offered by PSE will help us meet our clean energy goals and provide our employees, and the employers of our families, with expanded charging access through installation and maintenance incentives.

These programs build on State and Federal funding and tax incentives to ensure communities like ours benefit from every opportunity to reduce upfront costs. We believe it's important to ensure equitable access to transportation electrification and its benefits. PSE's programs will not only provide robust financial incentives for historically underserved communities but also address barriers to equitable access through enhanced educational and technical assistance.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County supports PSE's efforts to address the urgency of establishing charging infrastructure and to further advance EV adoption. Approving PSE's Single Family, Workplace, Public and Alternative Technology Demonstrations tariffs is an important next step toward realizing a clean mobility future for all.

We appreciate the opportunity to support PSE's proposed filings and look forward to working with them to accelerate the adoption of transportation electrification in Washington.

Sincerely,

Ron McHenry
President & CEO
Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County