



Commissioners

Nancy E. Barnes
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***Chief Executive Officer/
General Manager***

Lena Wittler

June 30, 2025

The Honorable Brian Rybarik, Chair
The Honorable Ann Rendahl, Commissioner
The Honorable Milt Doumit, Commissioner
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503
Re: NW Natural's Thermal Energy Network Pilot Project

Dear Chair Rybarik and Commissioners,

Clark Public Utilities supports NW Natural's application for a proposed Thermal Energy Network (TEN) pilot project. The project team at NW Natural contacted Clark Public Utilities during the initial planning and design phase of this TEN project and we have been coordinating and researching the potential value of this project for the electric grid in Clark County for the last several months.

Our initial analysis indicates the NW Natural TEN project would have both an energy and capacity value for the utility and would be a benefit to the community. We have identified a process to measure and report energy efficiency savings this project may provide. We also concluded TEN projects have potential to provide capacity value to the electric utility; when measured against the baseline technologies that would be providing space and water conditioning, a TEN achieves much lower peak demand during both the summer and winter seasons. Clark Public Utilities does not currently have programs that provide incentives for the reduced demand TEN projects provide but the potential capacity benefit of this NW Natural pilot has been a catalyst to explore options for a future incentive program design.

Clark Public Utilities recognizes both the challenges we face as Washington decarbonizes not just the electric sector but the entire state-wide economy, and the benefits the clean energy future will bring our state. We believe projects like NW Natural's TEN pilot will be a key component to the successful approach needed to achieve Washington's carbon reduction goals. For that reason, combined with the value streams we have identified, we strongly support NW Natural's TEN grant application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Babbitts", is written over a faint, larger blue outline of the same signature.

Matt Babbitts
Clark Public Utilities



July 2, 2025
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Subject: Letter of Support for NW Natural Thermal Energy Network Pilot in Vancouver, WA

Dear Grant Review Panel,

On behalf of the City of Vancouver, I am writing to express our strong support for NW Natural's thermal energy network pilot. This initiative represents an innovative, sustainable infrastructure investment that aligns with the City's goals for climate action, energy resilience, equitable community development, and reducing the costs to deliver new housing.

As municipalities across the country face growing challenges related to climate change, energy affordability, and aging infrastructure, the deployment of thermal energy networks offers an exciting solution that, though new to the City of Vancouver, has proven scalable and successful elsewhere in similar applications. The proposed project will utilize ground sourced heat recovery to provide low-carbon heating and cooling for the City's Waterfront Gateway mixed use redevelopment and adjacent City Hall. After completion of the thermal energy network pilot and construction of the redevelopment site, it is expected to serve over 300 residential units, 35,000 sf of retail, and 200,000 sf of office. This will significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions with a modeled 36% energy savings compared to a conventional heating and cooling system. This significant energy savings is expected to bring down operating costs and enhance the reliability of energy services for the development while lowering the initial cost of construction for the residential development by eliminating their need to include building mechanical equipment in their scope.

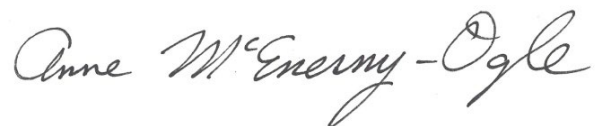
The City of Vancouver recognizes the importance of innovative energy solutions in meeting our climate and sustainability targets as highlighted by the City's Climate Action Framework and ongoing Green Building Policy development. The thermal energy network pilot directly supports these efforts and demonstrates a model of public-private collaboration with the potential to be replicated regionally.

In addition to its environmental benefits, the thermal energy network pilot will support local economic development, create living wage jobs, and improve energy equity by delivering affordable and sustainable thermal services to a diverse set of users, including housing, municipal buildings, and small businesses.

We are proud to partner with NW Natural in advancing this exciting initiative, and we are committed to supporting the successful development, implementation, and long-term viability of the thermal energy network pilot.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne McEnerny-Ogle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne McEnerny-Ogle
Mayor
City of Vancouver, Washington

Lincoln

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June 30, 2025

The Honorable Brian Rybarik, Chair
The Honorable Ann Rendahl, Commissioner
The Honorable Milt Doumit, Commissioner
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission
621 Woodland Square Loop SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Re: NW Natural's Thermal Energy Network Pilot Project

Dear Chair Rybarik and Commissioners

Lincoln Property Company is pleased to offer our full support for NW Natural's proposal to develop a brand-new Thermal Energy Network (TEN) in Vancouver, Washington.

The proposed TEN aligns with Lincoln's core values and offers an innovative approach to providing reliable, low-carbon thermal energy to the growing Vancouver community. This TEN will not only provide immediate environmental and operational benefits but also set a precedent for smart energy infrastructure development in the region. We believe this project will build the State of Washington's sustainability legacy, becoming a powerful example of interdisciplinary collaboration and innovation.

As a company with a long-standing commitment to sustainable and resilient development, Lincoln has experience with carbon and energy management in new construction projects regionally and nationally. We support transitioning to thermal energy networks as an essential aspect of future-proofing our built environments—and thereby our communities—and we are eager to contribute our expertise to this forward-thinking initiative.

This project has the potential to be a landmark case study for future new construction, and we are eager to support NW Natural's leadership in advancing clean energy solutions. We encourage local stakeholders to move forward with this transformative initiative, which will serve as a model for future sustainable urban energy systems and contribute to the long-term success of the Vancouver area.

Sincerely,



Alex Aigner
Executive Vice President, Pacific Northwest