



UE-230287

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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:

On behalf of the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and our more than 2,500 members, I am 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.

As our economy innovates and an increasing number of households, commuters, and businesses switch to electric and hybrid vehicles, it is essential that our region is equipped to meet the rising demand for charging stations. Seattleites and Washingtonians, our members and their employees included, are largely committed to reducing carbon emissions to protect our state's natural resources. This legislative session, on behalf of our members, the Seattle Metro Chamber championed Senate Bill 5447, legislation offering tax incentives to promote the state's alternative jet fuel industry. The bill's passage indicates broad and bipartisan support for decarbonization. We will continue to advocate for policies that incentivize businesses and individuals to reduce their carbon footprint. PSE's tariffs aimed at expanding equitable access to electric vehicle infrastructure in our region are essential in reducing our state's carbon emissions and meeting the needs of a rapidly evolving electric transportation system.

Affordability and quality of life are major priorities for Seattle Metro Chamber members. PSE's Single Family Residential program will address the needs of homeowners who are deciding between electric or traditional ICE for their next vehicle and make the choice easier by making decarbonization more affordable. This program stands to help limited income households 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). As our region strives to promote economic activity post-pandemic, it is important that we make it easier to do business. Offering those businesses and employees that use electric vehicles ample and affordable charging options is an exciting way to encourage decarbonization and ease the cost burden on businesses and commuters.

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.

The Seattle Metro Chamber 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 are 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rachel Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rachel" being more prominent than the last name "Smith".

Rachel Smith
President and CEO
Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce