



King County

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September 12, 2016

Steven V. King
Executive Director
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC)
1300 S. Evergreen Park Dr. SW
P.O. Box 47250
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

RE: Puget Sound Energy (PSE) Schedule No. 139: Voluntary Renewable Energy Tariff
Docket UE-160977

Dear Mr. King:

I am writing to express King County's support for the proposed Puget Sound Energy Schedule No. 139: Voluntary Long Term Renewable Energy tariff, UTC Docket # UE-160977. The proposed tariff, which would allow large customers to purchase green energy through long term contracts, should help to drive the development of new renewable electricity generation. New renewable generation projects will help support and expand our state's clean energy economy and achieve environmental, health, and climate action progress.

King County provides regional wastewater treatment, solid waste transfer and disposal, criminal justice, public health, parks, and transit services to more than two million county and city customers, and purchases approximately \$10 million per year in electricity from PSE. King County is home to roughly half of PSE's customer base.

King County has been a leader in renewable energy production. The West Point Treatment Plant has been using biogas to generate electricity, and for plant heat and pumping needs, since the 1960s. The county is also a large biomethane-to-pipeline gas producer at the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill, and one of the state's largest generators of photovoltaic electricity. In the county's recently adopted Strategic Climate Action Plan, the county set a goal of sourcing 100 percent greenhouse gas neutral electricity by 2025. The county will closely evaluate the renewable electricity options available through Schedule No. 139 as a means of meeting our clean electricity goals.

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Confronting climate change and accelerating a transition to a clean energy economy is a top priority for King County and many of its partners. Through the Growth Management Planning Council, 39 cities and King County have established shared, formal targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50 percent by 2030 and 80 percent by 2050. Furthermore, partners of the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C) have charted out specific commitments needed to meet these targets, including phasing out coal-fired electricity sources by 2025 and increasing renewable electricity use by 20 percentage points above 2012 levels by 2030. To date, local governments representing more than 1.5 million residents have endorsed the K4C's Joint County-City Climate Commitments. The availability of green electricity Schedule no. 139 will help drive the type of renewable energy generation that is envisioned in the K4C goals.

King County's long-term interest is in the significant expansion of clean, renewable supplies for all customers across the region. PSE's proposed tariff Schedule No. 139 provides an additional option for commercial and municipal customers to purchase renewable energy and make progress toward the goal of increasing renewable energy supply. We appreciate PSE's efforts to develop this option, and recommend UTC approval. We look forward to continuing to work with PSE and the UTC to meet our long-range renewable energy and climate change goals.

Sincerely,



Dow Constantine
King County Executive

cc: Sung Yang, Deputy King County Executive for Policy Planning and Public Affairs,
King County Executive's Office (KCEO)
Caroline Whalen, King County Administrative Officer
Harold Taniguchi, Director, King County Department of Transportation
Christie True, Director, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Diane Carlson, Director of Regional Initiatives, KCEO
Megan Smith, Director of Climate and Energy Initiatives, KCEO