July 26, 2021

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

Regarding: Docket Number 210191

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Saint Martin’s University is pleased to offer this letter of support for Puget Sound Energy’s (PSE) proposed Transportation Electrification (TE) Plan. We believe that electrifying transportation is a vital way to reduce carbon emissions in the state and help Saint Martin’s, as a PSE customer, encourage employees to drive and own electrical vehicles.

The TE Plan supports our business and community goals to grow a more sustainable, equitable, resilient, and healthy clean energy economy. Additionally, this plan supports PSE’s Beyond Net Zero Carbon goals, which target reducing their own carbon emissions to net zero and go beyond by helping other sectors to enable carbon reduction across Washington state by 2045.

Saint Martin’s University is an independent coeducational university, with undergraduate and graduate offerings, on its Lacey campus and Joint Base Lewis-McChord extended campus. Saint Martin’s prepares its more than 1,300 undergraduate students and 250 graduate students for successful lives through its 29 majors, 11 master’s programs, one doctorate program and seven certificate programs spanning the arts and sciences, nursing and leadership.

The University was recently recognized as the 2021 Large Business of the Year as a Thurston Green Business designation recipient. The Thurston Green Business designation program recognizes businesses in Thurston County making efforts to maintain and implement sustainable, green business practices. As the University continues to make strides toward further environmental sustainability, it is a candidate to be a future participant in the PSE Electrical Vehicle Work Place Charging Pilot program.

While Saint Martin’s plans to incorporate electric vehicle infrastructure on campus for university employees, it is vital that PSE provides its customers with a grid that is reliable, resilient, safe, and modernized to efficiently respond to the changing transportation industry. PSE’s TE Plan is a roadmap for their teams to develop and implement programs and services that support electric vehicle charging and the corresponding utility infrastructure to support increased loads.

We appreciate the opportunity to support PSE’s TE Plan and look forward to working with them to encourage Thurston County residents and Saint Martin’s employees to drive and own electric vehicles.

Sincerely,

Roy F. Heynderickx, Ph.D.
Saint Martin’s University President