Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) would like the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) recognize the importance of a reliable, resilient, safe, and modernized grid system to service the public with reliable clean public transportation as we stated in our June 29, 2021 letter of support for PSE’s Transportation Electrification (TE) Plan.

In the PSE July 14, 2021 addendum to their TE, PSE proposes submetering load management that may interrupt electric vehicle charging during peak demand. An interruption in charging our EV bus fleet would severely impact our mission to providing affordable transportation for the public. If an interruption did occur the only economical solution to maintain our EV charging schedule would be by an onsite back-up carbon fueled generator. This would localize carbon emissions of the entire EV fleet in one area. Since many public transportation fleets are based in low income area, this would cause a carbon emissions equity imbalance.

For this reason, WTA requests the UTC work with PSE and Public Transportation Agencies on a rate structure specifically for Public Transportation Providers to supply dependable and affordable power for the public good.

Sincerely,

Mike Bozzo

Fleet and Facilities Director for Les Reardanz, General Manager