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Jeff Killip, UTC Executive Director and Secretary,

As a PSE (Puget Sound Energy) customer and owner of Cascadia Renewables (a technical consultancy helping the hardest-to-reach vulnerable communities decarbonize), it is vital that PSE has a clear, reasonable, and affordable pathway to decarbonization and compliance with the Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA). Puget Sound Energy's Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and Clean Energy Implementation Plan (CEIP) have indicated that customer-sited solar energy is a significant aspect of their compliance plan. Retail rate Net Energy Metering (NEM) has been the foundation for the financial feasibility of customer-sited PV projects in Washington State.

I firmly believe that by providing a two-year extension to the current retail rate net metering, the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC) would enable a calm, thoughtful, and good faith study/analysis for alternative structures to retail rate net metering that would continue to allow the electricity sector to decarbonize while ensuring affordability and equity for all WA ratepayers.

It is essential to allow this process adequate time to fully understand the value of solar energy and the benefits it provides to all ratepayers. Moreover, it is important to understand the reasonable, responsible, and fair alternatives to retail rate net metering. This will ensure that the electricity sector can transition to cleaner energy sources while keeping costs low and equitable for all WA ratepayers.

I urge the UTC to give time to all stakeholders, including PSE, the WA Legislature, the Solar Industry, Tribes, and Environmental Equity stakeholders, to fully dissect, understand, and develop a responsible alternative to retail rate net metering. By providing sufficient time to all stakeholders, we can ensure that the alternative to retail rate net metering is well thought out, reasonable, and equitable for all.

Sincerely,



**Markus Virta**

Co-founder & Managing Partner  
Cascadia Renewables LLC  
Puget Sound Energy Customer

