Seattle City Light

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May 5, 2024

THE HONORABLE MICHAEL S. REGAN
ADMINISTRATOR
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
1200 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Regan:

On behalf of Seattle City Light, I am pleased to share our strong support for the joint "Accelerating Zero-Emission Technology Deployment at Puget Sound Ports" application by The Northwest Seaport Alliance, Port of Seattle, and Port of Tacoma to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Ports Program (CPP) Zero-Emission Technology Deployment Competition.

These ports have committed to phasing out all emissions from seaport activities by 2050 or sooner. CPP offers an unprecedented opportunity to intensify this work and to accelerate progress toward a "tipping point" in the effort to fully decarbonize seaport operations in the Puget Sound region. The ports' proposal prioritizes the top three sources of seaport-related pollution in our region – vessels, cargo-handling equipment, and drayage trucks – as well as expanded community engagement programming. The high-impact suite of proposed projects and programs – from cargo to cruise to commercial fishing and more – will:

- Significantly reduce air and climate pollution from maritime activities in the Puget Sound region, especially in disadvantaged communities located near port terminals and freight corridors.
- Deliver healthier air for near-port residents as well as the tens of thousands of people who work on or near port facilities.
- Create, preserve, and improve the quality of thousands of port-related jobs – from dock workers to vessel-operators and truckers, while creating new opportunities in the clean energy economy.
- Strengthen the ports' capacity to meaningfully engage and partner with near-port communities and other stakeholders.
- Bolster the ports' role as catalysts of large-scale maritime decarbonization and sustainability transition – not only at their own facilities but across the broader maritime and freight industries locally, nationally, and globally.

As a carbon-neutral electric utility committed to and owned by the communities we serve, City Light understands the many benefits of electrification and the role play in hitting our Climate Action Plan objectives, especially in the transportation sector. To this end we have already been closely partnered with the Port of Seattle and Northwest Seaport Alliance on decarbonization initiatives and proactive

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planning for several years now. The Port of Seattle (Port), in collaboration with Seattle City Light (SCL) and the Northwest Seaport Alliance (NWSA), is developing the Seattle Waterfront Clean Energy Strategy. When complete, this strategy will provide a thorough, implementable deployment strategy that will support key Port and regional stakeholder planning goals and objectives. This effort leverages an integrated planning approach that includes joint planning and future deployment of the clean energy infrastructure that will be critical to the maritime industry's ability to adopt zero emissions technologies and ultimately eliminate emissions. City Light, the Northwest Seaport Alliance and more than 25 regional and community stakeholders have also been engaged, since June 2023, in the Puget Sound Zero-Emissions Truck Collaborative to create a roadmap for equitably electrifying drayage tucking at scale. These existing collaborative planning efforts are critical to City Light in achieving the community-led goals set in our Transportation Electrification Strategic Investment Plan and show a path to shovel-ready impact for EPA funding that will lead in the nation and benefit residents of the Pacific Northwest in terms of improved air quality and health for generations to come.

This proposal is transformative for our region and will help drive progress toward emissions reductions in one of the hardest to decarbonize industries. Seattle City Light urges the EPA to support this joint proposal.

Sincerely,

Dawn Ruth Lindell

Dawn Lindell
INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER AND CEO
Seattle City Light