

January 11, 2019

Ms. Brinda Westbrook-Sedgwick Commission Secretary Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia 1325 G Street N.W., Suite 800 Washington, DC 20005

RE: Formal Case No. 1130 – Pepco's Proposed EV Filing

The Association of Global Automakers,<sup>1</sup> Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers,<sup>2</sup> American Honda Motor Co., Inc., General Motors LLC, Ford Motor Company, Hyundai Motor Company, Jaguar Land Rover North America, and Kia Motor Corporation thank you for the opportunity to provide this letter in support of the transportation electrification programs proposed by Pepco. Pepco's proposed programs would drive transportation electrification for individuals, fleets, and ride share operators by adding infrastructure for charging both in the home, at the workplace, and in public spaces.

Our associations and companies are invested in and support the electrification of vehicles, and our companies are working diligently to expand offerings, including plug-in and fuel cell electric vehicles, in a variety of ranges, price points and vehicle types to meet all customers' needs and further the reduction of transportation-related carbon emissions.

The programs proposed by Pepco come at an important time, as they represent an opportunity to build on the progress made by the recent passage of the District of Columbia Clean Energy Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018 by the District of Columbia Council. To achieve the amendment's goal that 100% of light duty vehicles be low or zero emission by 2045, the District must expand transportation electrification infrastructure and consumer outreach efforts, both of which will be critical to meeting this goal. Customers still show reluctance in adopting plug-in vehicles due to lack of visibility and availability of charging infrastructure. Utility investment in expanding public charging infrastructure and residential charging in targeted and critical locations, including underserved communities, will move the market toward more electrified transportation. We are supportive of Pepco's proposed programs, which will help to do just that. Delaying the application will only delay the city's response to needing electrification infrastructure and ultimately to increasing the number of electric vehicles in the District.

More specifically, we would like to emphasize the importance of two particular aspects of Pepco's proposal, the 20 direct current fast-chargers (\$2.2mil) and the Customer Education and Outreach Plan (\$2mil). These are essential items for building a robust base of electric vehicles in the District. The 20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Global Automakers' members include Aston Martin, Ferrari, Honda, Hyundai, Isuzu, Kia, Maserati, McLaren, Nissan, Subaru, Suzuki, and Toyota. Please visit <u>www.globalautomakers.org</u> for further information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Alliance members include BMW, Chrysler, Ford, General Motors, Jaguar Land Rover, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz, Mitsubishi, Porsche, Toyota, Volkswagen, and Volvo. Please visit <u>www.autoalliance.org</u> for further information.

direct current fast-chargers are not only critical for supporting customers who do not have access to home-charging, but also to ensuring the District's taxi fleets have easy, convenient, and public access to fast charging; this is necessary to supporting these local businesses.

In addition, the inclusion of a "Customer Education and Outreach Plan" is a critical element, because utilities have an existing, wide and broad network for reaching customers and the right level of information to assist customers in understanding, for example, home charging setups, rates and advantageous times to charge. In the State of California, utilities have long played a role in distributing information, offering competitive charging rates, and working directly with consumers to provide rebates for chargers and charging, all of which result in increased customer awareness and enhanced customers experiences; these efforts have greatly contributed to California's ever-growing electric vehicle market. Thus, we cannot underscore enough the importance of implementing a plan for customer outreach as part of Pepco's proposals.

On behalf of the wide range of people in the District who will benefit, we urge the Public Service Commission to accept Pepco's proposed transportation electrification programs to continue on the path the District has set toward a sustainable energy future.

Sincerely,

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