

October 13, 2021

Motion 21-10 –That the Chair be authorized to send a letter on behalf of the Board to the City Council concerning the proposed Tideflats non-interim ordinance as set forth in the materials on file with the Clerk of the Board.



TACOMA PUBLIC UTILITIES  
3628 South 35th Street  
Tacoma, Washington 98409-3192

DATE

Dear Mayor Woodards and Members of the City Council:

In a letter dated June 30, 2021, the Public Utilities Board (PUB) submitted comments to the City Council regarding the Planning Commission's recommended amendments to the Interim-Tideflats regulations. This letter focused on concerns of the PUB regarding the impact the recommendations may have on economic activity, in particular, the development of a green hydrogen fuels sector within the City's industrial zones. In addition, we requested that hydropower be included in an amended definition of renewable fuels and offered our staff, as subject matter experts, to assist the Council and Planning staff in developing that definition.

The process amending the Tideflats regulations is complex, involving many details and the careful balancing of a multitude of often conflicting input from the public and other stakeholders. We would like to extend our appreciation to the Infrastructure, Planning and Sustainability Committee. Throughout this process, the Committee welcomed TPU staff expertise to better understand the complex issues they were deliberating, especially those related to renewable energy, green hydrogen, and chemical manufacturing. We appreciate the trust placed in our staff and the efforts the Committee made to understand our concerns. We are also grateful that the Committee's recommendations acknowledge our 98 percent carbon-free hydropower as a valuable renewable energy source.

We fully appreciate the push-pull nature of policy development and are pleased the Committee included some of our suggestions in their report. We thank you for your hard work and believe that these changes support the development of a clean and sustainable local economy; where the triple bottom line of people, planet, and profit combine to create the positive attributes required for a community to thrive in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Sincerely

/s/



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