

May 3, 2019

M. Lynn Jarvis
Chief Clerk
North Carolina Utilities Commission
4325 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4300

Re: Docket N# E-2, Sub 1197; E-7, Sub 1195

Dear Ms. Jarvis,

The Regional Transportation Alliance, the voice of the regional business community on transportation in the greater Research Triangle region of North Carolina, is a strong advocate for alternative fuel technologies to make public transit more attractive, sustainable, and effective.

The RTA business organization strongly supports Duke Energy's application for a statewide pilot electric vehicle initiative and encourages the Commission to expeditiously approve it. The proposed initiative would jumpstart electrifying transportation usage and scalability with the largest EV infrastructure pilot in the southeast, while leveraging complementary programs including VW settlement and "Low/No" grants.

This Duke Energy pilot would further our region's efforts to create a lower-emission transit system for our market while we construct five bus rapid transit corridors across our region during the next eight years. In addition, the RTA has been a consistent supporter of various municipal and regional applications for "Low/No" emission grants to advance the implementation of alternative fuels for transit. We recognize that battery-electric buses will provide key rider, neighborhood, and transit attractiveness benefits as they produce no tail pipe emissions and eliminate engine noise.

The RTA endorses this application to advance a cleaner, more sustainable transit future for our growing region that will accelerate economic growth, expand travel options, enhance job access and opportunity, and preserve our natural resources. In addition, we understand that this initiative will benefit all Duke Energy customers due to grid management benefits.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments in support of Duke Energy's pilot. If you have any questions, please contact me at 919.664.7065 or joe@letsgetmoving.org.

Best regards,



Joe Milazzo II, PE
RTA Executive Director