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Thomas Built Buses, Inc
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(336) 841-5756

Because every mile matters.℠

November 16, 2018

The Honorable Jocelyn G. Boyd
Chief Clerk/Administrator
The Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, SC 29210

Docket Title: Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC for Approval of Proposed Electric Transportation Pilot and an Accounting Order to Defer Capital and Operating Expenses
Docket numbers: 2018-322-E and 2018-321-E

Dear Administrator Boyd,

Thomas Built Buses is in full support of Duke Energy's proposed Electric Transportation Pilot, which includes rebates on school buses. Zero Emission Vehicles (ZEVs) will significantly improve air quality and over time, also significantly improve the total cost of ownership equation for schools. Duke Energy's program will provide the basis for a foundational electric vehicle network which will reduce the anxiety associated with the range of vehicles and in turn accelerate the adoption of ZEVs.

The technologies that Thomas is employing on our ZEVs offer a number of benefits including emissions and efficiencies as mentioned above but could also have a positive impact on the economy of South Carolina through the possibility of buses purchased from an in-state manufacturer and the installation of charging infrastructure. This program will also assist with the establishment of South Carolina as a leader in transportation technology, creating the possibility of attracting emerging industries. There is also a likely benefit to the consumer due to V2G, smart charging technologies that can create downward price pressure.

We fully support Duke Energy in the rollout of this exciting project. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at your convenience.

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Sincerely,

Ken Hedgecock
Vice-President of Sales, Marketing and Service

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