Stephen Bailey

OUR STATE CAN BE, ALONG WITH HAWAII, A MODEL FOR SPEEDING OUR TRANSITION TO NON-COMBUSTION ENERGY SYSTEMS! PLEASE, SUPPORT, AND MANIFEST THE THINGS WE NEED IN ORDER TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN. END CORPORATE WELFARE FOR THE FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY! STEER THOSE FUNDS TO ENABLING OUR TRANSITION TO NON-COMBUSTION **ENERGY SYSTEMS.!** PROTECT AND FORTIFY WHAT EXISTING REGS AND POLICIES PRESENTLY IN PLACE FOR REDUCING OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT. RESIST ANY AND ALL EFFORTS BY THE FED GOVT TO ERODE OUR PRESENT SUPPORT FOR TRANSISION BE IT LEGAL, FINANCIAL, OR POLICY BASED. OUR FUTURE AND OUR SURVIVAL DEPENDS UPON US DOING THIS IN TIME TO STAVE OFF AND REVERSE THE CATACLYSMS WHICH THREATEN OUR FUTURE AND OUR SURVIVAL. ACTIONS ON BEHALF OF OUR ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS ARE THE MISSION YOU SWORE TO PERFORM WHEN YOU WERE HIRED. PLEASE FULFILL YOUR MISSION IN AS IMPECCABLE A MANNER AS YOU POSSIBLY CAN. THANKS FOR YOUR EFFORTS ON OUR BEHALF. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft plan for Washingtons use of the VW

mitigation funds. As written, the plan may achieve two critically important goals:

1)Achieve healthy air in communities that have historically borne a disproportionate share of air pollution

2)Accelerate the deployment of all-electric engines

During the implementation of the plan, I strongly urge you to maintain close consultation with environmental justice and public health stakeholders in order to achieve these goals. Communities of color and low-income households may face significant social and economic barriers to accessing clean air. Your continued effective engagement will ensure that selected projects are responsive to community needs and deliver the greatest health benefits. Furthermore, as you explore funding projects that qualify for matching funds, I ask that you keep in consideration those communities that may not be able to offer a match but still have an acute need for air quality improvements.

It is smart for Ecology to consider other relevant laws such as Washington States carbon emission reduction targets. Utilized effectively, the VW settlement funds offer an opportunity for Washington to accelerate the growth of a modern, zero-emissions transportation system. I appreciate that you have chosen to prioritize funding all-electric engines and target public transit fleets first. In order to make these purchases more cost-effective, I urge you to include Governor Inslees Executive Order 14-04 in the plan, which requires state agencies to include the cost of carbon emissions in cost-benefit analyses for public fleet purchases.

I agree that the VW funding provides an opportunity to do more than just reduce the diesel emissions produced by the affected vehicles. It can sever the link between air quality and social

status and better position our state to tackle climate change.

Thank you for your work in creating this draft with strong goals, principles, and priorities. As a member of the Washington Environmental Council, I look forward to staying in engaged in the plan as it moves forward.