

Jason Hudson

On behalf of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 77, representing utility workers across the vast majority of Washington's investor owned and consumer owned utilities, with jurisdiction covering 35 of Washington's 39 counties, we support the exemption for Utility Service Vehicles in the proposed WAC 173-423-060(1)(h). Utility workers function as first responders during utility outages and rely on their utility service vehicles (USVs) to keep them safe while performing their critical work, and to keep the public safe by restoring utility service. This work often takes place in demanding and challenging environments, during extreme weather events, and far from support, backup, or infrastructure. We support Washington's goal of reducing vehicle carbon emissions, but until such time that advanced clean trucks (ACTs) for USV applications are more widely available and have a proven record of reliability and the ability to keep workers safe while responding to outages, we respectfully request that the proposed exemption for USVs remain in WAC 173-423-060.

Sincerely,

Jason Hudson
Government Affairs Director
IBEW Local 77