## Princeton University



Department of Facilities Engineering The MacMillan Building Elm Drive Princeton, New Jersey 08543-2158

October 27, 2020

Ms. Aida Camacho Board Secretary Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor P.O. Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0305

Re: PSEG Smart Metering Program

Dear Board Members;

My name is Thomas Nyquist, P.E. and I am the Director of Engineering at Princeton University. Princeton University is proud to be recognized as a world-renowned research university, and seeks to achieve the highest levels of distinction in the discovery and transmission of knowledge and understanding. At the same time, Princeton is distinctive among research universities in its commitment to undergraduate teaching. What many may not realize is that we also work aggressively to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020 by designing, operating and maintaining energy systems that help the University achieve our Sustainability Plan goals. To meet these goals, Princeton built and maintains our own cogeneration plant, and we are both a customer and a supplier to our local utility company. Our Cogen Plant engineers monitor campus power usage and outside energy prices in real time, and seamlessly switch between buying energy when it is at a lower cost than producing it, or selling energy back when prices are high. Our plant also supplies "grid services" such as voltage and frequency adjustment, providing revenues to offset our electricity costs. I share this to demonstrate the integral commitment that Princeton University has to being a part of a cleaner energy future for New Jersey while leveraging available technologies to meet those goals, and to voice our support of the PSE&G Energy Cloud proposal (BPU Docket No.: EO18101115).

We are in a unique position with PSE&G as a partner and customer. We also have hundreds of PSE&G accounts affiliated with Princeton University; many of which are meters that have to be read manually. Energy Cloud offers an opportunity to automate and enhance those systems to provide critical data to the University to better manage energy usage as well as cost savings. Additionally, the Energy Cloud proposal offers benefits to the university for storm and extreme events where services are interrupted and we are managing those hundreds of accounts and coordinating restoration details. During and after a major storm, we do not know the power status for most of our off-campus properties. The ability for PSE&G to know when our power is down without us calling, allows us to focus on our own operations and enables PSEG to responds to outages faster. Princeton is a strong advocate for sustainable practices and we are confident that the benefits of the Energy Cloud will be realized and create a path toward enhanced clean energy choices, including solar installations, electric

vehicles and storage options. The slight increase in costs to fund this initiative are relatively small and acceptable.

We encourage the Board to approve this filing and appreciate your consideration of this statement.

Should you have any questions, please call me at (609) 258-5472 or email me at tnyquist@princeton.edu.

Sincerely, Thomas A. Nyquist

Thomas A. Nyquist, P.E. Executive Director, Facilities Engineering