

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4705

July 18, 2011

Colleen Hall Barta
Institute for Environmental Research and Education
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Dear Friends,

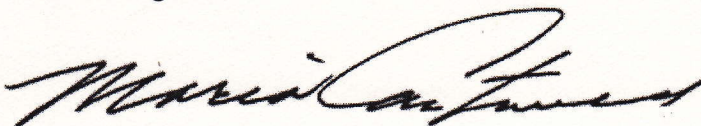
I regret that I am unable to join you today. I would like to thank Dr. Rita Schenk and Colleen Hall Barta from the Institute for Environmental Research and Education, and Steve Marshall from the Center for Advanced Transportation Solutions for your support for this project and development of today's workshop. I also want to thank everyone here for attending this important event.

For economic reasons, national security reasons, and environmental reasons, we must continue to invest in America's clean energy economy. Our country needs to take serious and thoughtful steps to reduce our reliance on carbon-emitting, imported fossil fuels. Electric mobility provides an exciting opportunity for Washington state to continue to be on the cutting edge of developing the promising clean energy solutions that protect our environment and grow our economy.

The goal of this workshop is to produce a planning document to be used by private and public sector partners to secure funding for a scale-model Electric Mobility Demonstration Project. I am proud that Thurston and Pierce counties along with Joint Base Lewis McCord are working together to provide solutions that address the negative environmental impacts of current transportation systems. I am confident this project will show that our collaborative efforts can reduce the environmental impacts of transportation and improve the quality of life for both civilians and military personnel.

Together, I am confident we can realize the goals of reduced dependence on fossil fuels and 'green' transportation solutions that work for all Washingtonians.

Warmest Regards,



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator

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