The Honorable Jay Inslee
Governor of Washington State
Olympia, WA, USA
98504-0002

17 December 2014

Dear Governor,

I welcome your ambitious legislative proposal I understand will be announced today for a carbon pollution market to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Washington State and your continued vision for building a low carbon economy. Climate change is one of the most serious threats the world faces and we need to take action now to protect future generations against the risks of negative economic and health impacts. This action comes at an important time, when momentum is building internationally with the EU, China and of course, the US having all recently made significant climate change announcements.

The UK has long recognised Washington State’s leadership in developing forward-thinking policies to protect the environment and innovative technologies to tackle climate change. These actions not only mean progress towards achieving local and international emissions-reductions commitments, they also bring economic opportunities: from growth and jobs to improved health and greater energy security.

For this reason my predecessor, former Minister of State for Energy and Climate Change Mr Gregory Barker, signed a series of agreements with you establishing close collaboration between the United Kingdom and Washington State on carbon pricing, advanced clean energy innovation, and low-carbon fuels. These are key areas of focus for the UK and I continue to support this valuable dialogue.

I look forward to seeing the bill move successfully through your legislative process in the coming months and continuing our productive collaboration on these important issues.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

AMBER RUDD