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A 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation - EIN 82-2423561

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Mr. Douglas Ito
California Public Utilities Commission
Consumer Protection and Enforcement Division
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3214

I'm writing on behalf of the Northern California Spinal Cord Injury Foundation (NorCal SCI) in support of Cruise's Autonomous Vehicle Passenger Service Application. As our organization represents some 14,000 Californians living with paralysis, we are committed to create digital and physical access to people with disabilities.

If California approves the wide-scale commercial use of Cruise's driverless vehicle services, it would improve the independence and dignity of our community members as they travel.

Though California offers several methods of transportation, there are no viable options which allow our community members to travel long distances without relying on the assistance of an able bodied person. With driverless vehicles, passengers do not need to depend on a stranger for their transportation needs, assuring that travelers of all needs and abilities retain their autonomy.

As Cruise has been consulting with accessibility stakeholders during the development and testing phase of its vehicles in San Francisco, we're confident that it will continue to take the mobility impaired communities' needs into account as its driverless vehicles transition to commercial use.

We hope that Cruise's driverless vehicles can soon be commercially utilized across the state, so transportation can come closer to becoming a service that truly serves all passengers equally.

That's why we urge the CPUC to approve Cruise's Autonomous Vehicle Passenger Service Application, so that riders with disabilities can finally benefit from the transportation freedom able bodied people have enjoyed for generations.

Thank you,

F. Elieh

Franklin Elieh
Co-founder, NorCalSCI.org