

May 4, 2015

## **CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION ITEM**

### **SUBJECT**

Presentation of the Independent Technical Analysis of the Energize Eastside project authorized by Resolution No. 8857 through a professional services agreement with Utility Systems Efficiencies, Inc. (USE).

### **STAFF CONTACT**

Mike Brennan, Director, 452-4113

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### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The agreement allocated up to \$100,000 for specific tasks and services described in the contract leading to a report independently evaluating, for the City of Bellevue, the purpose and need for Puget Sound Energy's proposed Energize Eastside project.

### **POLICY CONSIDERATION**

#### City policy direction:

Resolution No. 8857 approved by Council on December 8, 2014, authorized execution of a professional services agreement with Utility Systems Efficiencies, Inc. (USE). By entering into the agreement, the City would obtain an objective understanding of how the purpose, need and timing of the proposed electrical system improvements could be specifically documented for Bellevue.

Under this policy framework the independent analysis would evaluate the need for the project, including assessment of forecast growth and demand and timing for delivery of improvements to meet forecast growth as applied specifically to Bellevue's growth and the reliability of the electrical system serving the city.

### **DIRECTION NEEDED FROM COUNCIL**

☐ Action

☒ Discussion

☒ Information

### **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

The City Council directed staff to retain a consultant with expertise in electrical facilities development to: 1) conduct technical and independent electrical utility facilities analysis of Puget Sound Energy's proposed Energize Eastside project; and 2) to relate that to an evaluation of project need. The selected firm was required to have the technical ability and experience to conduct this analysis with regard to specific issues pertaining to the City of Bellevue, its jurisdiction, regulatory authority, and growth management policy frameworks.

Utility Systems Efficiencies, Inc. was selected as the most responsive and most qualified to conduct the independent technical analysis. Their task (Scope of Services 8) was to develop a formal, written evaluation of and to report out on the need for the project.

The report is a formal evaluation of the need for the project including assessment of forecast growth and demand, timing for delivery of improvements to meet forecast growth, and the impacts to electrical system reliability. USE also performed an optional technical analysis (OTA) that modeled contingency analysis of PSE's "base" case scenarios under which USE assessed the extent of local need and regional infrastructure reliability.

On Monday night, City staff and representatives from USE will present the results of their analysis summarized in the report and respond to Council questions. See Attachment 2.

## **CONCLUSION**

The City commissioned an independent technical review by a qualified consultant. The consultant has presented what the City requested by way of the Independent Technical Analysis. This analysis and the information it contains are ready to be forwarded to the Environmental Coordinator and the Energize Eastside EIS consultant for inclusion in Phase I of the EIS, which will target solutions for meeting electrical demand and need for reliability that were validated by the report.

The next public opportunity for comment will be presented in the Phase I EIS scoping comment period that will run through June 15, 2015. See Attachment 3.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution No. 8857
2. Independent Technical Analysis
3. Energize Eastside EIS Process Timeline

## **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL DOCUMENT LIBRARY**

Professional Services Agreement