

Jeffery C. Allen
Chair
Idaho

Ed Schriever
Idaho

Doug Grob
Montana

Mike Milburn
Montana



Northwest **Power** and **Conservation** Council

KC Golden
Vice Chair
Washington

Thomas L (Les) Purce
Washington

Ginny Burdick
Oregon

Louie Pitt, Jr.
Oregon

September 4, 2024

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: John Ollis
Manager of Planning and Analysis

SUBJECT: PSR Licensing and Maintenance for GENESYS

PROPOSED ACTION: Staff recommends authorization to contract with PSR Soluções e Consultoria em Energia Ltda (PSR Energy Solutions and Consulting Ltd) in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 for GENESYS licensing and support for the 2025 fiscal year.

SIGNIFICANCE: For FY25, staff is recommending renewing the license and maintenance support contract for GENESYS. The GENESYS model is a key quantitative tool used in the Council's power planning process.

BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

For fiscal year 2025, staff recommends authorization to contract with PSR in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 for the license of GENESYS and maintenance and technical support. Staff has budgeted for this full amount in the FY25 budget.

Note, the Council will also need to continue purchasing cloud computing time to minimize model run time. Staff will provide Council members information on that, as well as other ongoing model licensing costs for the power division technical work, in a separate email to members.

BACKGROUND

The Council previously contracted with PSR to redevelop the GENESYS model with the intention of improving model usability and accuracy given the increasing complexity of the regional power supply. Since the initial development, PSR has maintained dedicated support staff to ensure that the GENESYS model enhancements would be timely to support plan work, adequacy assessments, and model development. Staff recommends contracting with PSR to renew the software license and for PSR's continued model maintenance and technical support services. With the continuation of the maintenance and support services through FY25, PSR will continue to update and upgrade the model, fix all bugs, and provide its technical support team for web-based meetings with Council staff, which will ensure the model's efficiency, functionality, and accuracy. Specific areas of model enhancement for FY25 include improving the data handling between GENESYS and OptGen for better validation and reduced chance at user error and functionality that will reduce modeling time (saving both staff time and money).

ALTERNATIVES

The Council could decide to not renew the software license and maintenance and support services. This is not recommended. Without the GENESYS license, the Council would be unable to do the necessary hydro and adequacy modeling. Without the added maintenance and support services, staff would be required to invest significant time to ensure model usability. This would delay our ability to complete the next power plan and would reduce our overall modeling capabilities.