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September 7, 2022

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: John Ollis
Manager of Planning and Analysis

SUBJECT: GENESYS Model Support

PROPOSED ACTION: Staff recommends authorization to contract with Gwendolyn Shearer in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for GENESYS modeling support throughout fiscal year 2023.

SIGNIFICANCE: The GENESYS model is a key quantitative tool used in the Council's power planning processes. Specifically, the GENESYS model is the primary quantitative tool used by the Council to understand the impacts of changes in the hydroelectric system's operations on the regional power system and to assess resource adequacy.

BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

For fiscal year 2023, staff recommends authorization to contract with Ms. Shearer in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

BACKGROUND

Ms. Shearer supported Council staff in the redevelopment, testing and running of the GENESYS model throughout development of the 2021 power plan, through the post-plan technical review of the modeled hydro operations and associated stakeholder outreach.

Staff is seeking her continued support with GENESYS modeling through 2022 adequacy assessment and for potential enhancements and studies to continue to improve hydropower operations in the GENESYS model throughout fiscal year 2023.

Ms. Shearer has extensive knowledge of both the classic and redeveloped GENESYS models and substantial experience with pacific northwest power operations.

ALTERNATIVES

In the alternative to proceeding as recommended by staff, the Council could proceed without or different contracted support. However, the redeveloped GENESYS model is substantially more complex than the classic and requires significantly more time and effort to set up and run the analyses; therefore, additional support is recommended, and a different contractor is likely to encounter a substantial learning-curve, which could be more costly and less efficient.