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October 2, 2018

### **DECISION MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Council members

**FROM:** Ben Kujala

**SUBJECT:** Authorization to enter into Regional Portfolio Model (RPM) software support contract for FY2019.

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Council staff recommends authorization to contract Lumidyne Consulting for technical support for the model on an as-needed basis. Work to enhance the RPM related to the 8<sup>th</sup> power plan will be included as part of the tasks covered by the software support contract with Lumidyne. The authorization is for an agreement for FY2019.

**SIGNIFICANCE:** There is a need for continuing RPM software support to assist staff in troubleshooting issues that arise in running the RPM as well as to perform enhancement work to the model in preparation for 8<sup>th</sup> Plan analysis. Work for preparing for the 8<sup>th</sup> Plan will include enhancements pertaining to model performance and functionality (i.e. updates to the model's treatment of the associated system capacity contribution, optimization capability, and general streamlining of model processes)

### **BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS**

Not to Exceed \$50,000.

**BACKGROUND**

Lumidyne Consulting is a new firm established by Cory Welch, the principal developer who worked with staff to develop the RPM software currently used by the Council.

**ANALYSIS**

This contract would be similar to the FY2018 RPM support contract, with additional tasks related to updating the model for the 8<sup>th</sup> Power Plan.

**ALTERNATIVES**

The alternative is to have Council staff perform the troubleshooting and any additional enhancement work on the model themselves. Such an approach may require significant utilization of staff time, that may be better suited to performing analytical work in preparation for the 8<sup>th</sup> Power Plan. It is also possible that the need will still arise for outside expert assistance on an occasional basis even with staff doing most of the heavy lifting on the model going forward. Additionally, it is prudent to have a support contract already in place before the need for outside technical support arises.