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October 4, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Power Committee

FROM: Ben Kujala

SUBJECT: ColumbiaGrid Transmission Update

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Paul Didsayabutra, Manager of Grid Planning

Summary Paul will update the Council on the planning activities of ColumbiaGrid regarding the regional transmission system. Council staff coordinates on planning assumptions with the regional transmission planners, including ColumbiaGrid.

Relevance Planning for adding new generating resources, energy efficiency, and demand response has significant implications for the transmission system expansion. And transmission system expansion can have significant implications for the resources available to serve regional load. Council staff coordinates with the regional transmission planners, including ColumbiaGrid, to account for these interactions in the power planning process. Council members heard from Northern Tier Transmission Group, the other regional transmission planning organization, in May of 2016. This presentation provides context on the other half of the regional transmission planning equation.

Workplan: A. Implement the Seventh Power Plan and related Council priorities

Background: ColumbiaGrid's mission is to improve the reliability and efficient use of the Northwest's transmission grid. ColumbiaGrid performs grid expansion planning, and develops and implements solutions related to the expansion, operation, reliability, and use of the interconnected Northwest transmission system. In carrying out its mission, ColumbiaGrid endeavors to provide sustainable benefits for its members and the region, while considering environmental concerns, regional interests, and cost-effectiveness.

More Info: <https://www.columbiagrid.org/>