

SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE*

Department:	Dept. Contact/Phone:	CBO Contact/Phone:
Seattle City Light	Tuan Tran / 684-3556	Greg Shiring / 386-4085

** Note that the Summary and Fiscal Note describes the version of the bill or resolution as introduced; final legislation including amendments may not be fully described.*

1. BILL SUMMARY

Legislation Title: AN ORDINANCE relating to the City Light Department; authorizing the General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of City Light to execute the NorthernGrid Funding Agreement; authorizing the execution of supplements, extensions, and amendments to such agreement subject to appropriated budget authority; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts.

Summary and background of the Legislation: This legislation enables Seattle City Light to enter a 2-year Funding Agreement with Northern Grid and biennial extensions. Seattle City Light has been participating in regional transmission planning as a member of ColumbiaGrid since 2009. The transmission owners in the Pacific Northwest are consolidating into a larger region by having a single process for enhanced regional planning with an expanded planning footprint. Transmission planning is key to long-term operation of the Western electric grid and is a critical element to maintain the reliability of the transmission grid in the near and long-term.

Participation in regional transmission planning is included in the City Light budget. By changing the entity, City Light is not seeking additional appropriations.

2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project? ___ Yes ___X___ No

3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Does this legislation amend the Adopted Budget? ___ Yes ___X___ No

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to the City of Seattle that are not reflected in the above, including direct or indirect, short-term or long-term costs?
No.

Is there financial cost or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation?

Transmission planning is key to long-term operation of the Western electric grid and is a critical element to maintain the reliability of the transmission grid in the near and long-term. Utilities are obligated by NERC to perform transmission planning for areas under their operational control and beyond to assess the risks of possible congestion or mis-operation

within the regional transmission system. A regional transmission planning organization allows for formal collaboration and communication between electric utilities in the region.

Seattle City Light has been participating in regional transmission planning as a member of ColumbiaGrid since 2009. Other members of ColumbiaGrid include Puget Sound Energy, Avista, Bonneville Power Administration, Tacoma Power, Chelan County PUD, Grant County PUD, and Snohomish County PUD. Northern Tier Transmission Group (NTTG) is a second transmission planning organization that also operates in the Pacific Northwest. The members include Deseret Power Electric Cooperative, Idaho Power, MATL, NorthWestern Energy, PacifiCorp, and Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems.

Members of both ColumbiaGrid and NTTG are working together to form the new NorthernGrid regional planning organization. This new organization benefits the entire region by having a single process for enhanced regional planning with an expanded planning footprint. This new organization will optimize the processes and methodologies used to develop regional plans with a larger shared set of data and assumptions, resulting in increased Pacific Northwest collaboration and is expected to provide improved results. Because the new organization integrates the best practices and features of the two existing planning organizations, the combined membership anticipates a reduction of future costs due to increase efficiencies.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**
No.
- b. **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**
No.
- c. **Does this legislation require landlords or sellers of real property to provide information regarding the property to a buyer or tenant?**
No.
- d. **Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**
No.
- e. **Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**
No.
- f. **Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative. Does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? What is the Language Access plan for any communications to the public?**

This legislation will not impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities. This is “business as usual” for Seattle City Light.

- g. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s).**

N/A.

List attachments/exhibits below:

None