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Montana

September 6, 2005

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jeff King

SUBJECT: Approval of Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee Charter

PROPOSED ACTION: Authorize the creation of, and approve a charter for a Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee. Appoint Jeff King as chair and Ken Corum as vice-chair.

SIGNIFICANCE: The proposed Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee will assist Council staff in the assessment of the progress of commercialization of coal gasification combined-cycle technology called for in Action GEN-7A. If the Committee appears to be a productive regional forum for exchanging information and opinion regarding coal gasification power generation and carbon sequestration technology, Staff may recommend that the Committee be continued to support achievement of Action GEN-13 (Investigating the feasibility of developing advanced coal gasification demonstration capability) and Action GEN-14 (Supporting and monitoring efforts to develop carbon sequestration technology).

BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS: Staff anticipates three to four meetings of the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee over the next 15 months to support the assessment of Action GEN-7A. Travel reimbursement for public committee members and for outside experts invited to speak to the Committee is estimated to cost \$8000 to \$10,000. In addition, about four weeks of staff time will be required to establish membership, coordinate meetings and prepare minutes. Additional budget and staff resources would be required if the advisory committee is extended beyond completion of Action GEN-7A.

BACKGROUND: The Council's 5th Power Plan foresees the need for coal gasification power generation capacity as early as 2016. Use of coal gasification combined-cycle technology in lieu of conventional coal-fired power generation lowers expected system cost and risk and would lower emissions of pollutants and carbon dioxide. Coal gasification technology appears to defer the need to bring new coal-based generation into service by about two and one half years (from mid 2013 to first quarter 2016 at the earliest), and pre-construction development would not have

to begin until 2009. These conclusions, however, are predicated on continued commercialization of coal gasification power generation technology, currently in an early stage of commercial development. If commercialization fails to advance as forecast, development of conventional coal-fired generation may need to commence by first quarter 2007. To provide for this contingency, the Council will issue by 2007 an assessment of the progress of commercialization of coal gasification combined-cycle technology and other estimates underlying the plan (Action GEN-7A).

ANALYSIS: the Regional Act calls for the establishment of advisory committees for assistance in developing the regional conservation and electric power plan. The Council has convened numerous advisory committees in the past to assist in the development of the Power Plan and for other purposes and has found Advisory Committees to be an effective tool for securing information, encouraging regional discussion and for promoting Council objectives. The Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee is expected to include about 12 to 15 members, comprised of representatives from interested regional utilities, state permitting and energy agencies, Bonneville Power Administration, environmental and other public interest organizations. Equipment vendors, project developers, academic experts and others may be invited to speak at specific meetings.

ALTERNATIVES: The Council could accomplish similar results without creating an advisory committee. That would, however, require meetings and consultations with many different groups and would lack the attractive feature of getting experts and affected parties together to discuss the issues.

ATTACHMENTS: Charter of the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee. The charter was prepared in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST ELECTRIC POWER AND CONSERVATION PLANNING COUNCIL

CHARTER OF THE COAL GASIFICATION POWER GENERATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. **Official Designation:** This advisory committee will be known as the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council's Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee.
2. **Background:** The proposed Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee is being formed to assist Council staff in the assessment of the progress of commercialization of coal gasification combined-cycle technology called for in Action GEN-7A of the Fifth Northwest Electric Power And Conservation Plan. Following the scheduled completion of Action GEN-7A by 2007, the Committee may be continued to support achievement of Action GEN-13 (Investigating the feasibility of developing advanced coal gasification demonstration capability) and Action GEN-14 (Supporting and monitoring efforts to develop carbon sequestration technology). This advisory committee is established as part of a network of advisory committees satisfying the Council's obligation under the Regional Act to establish a Scientific and Statistical Advisory Committee. 16 U.S.C. 839b(c)(11). Under section 4(a)(4) of the Act, the terms of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. Appendix I, sections 1-14, apply "to the extent appropriate" to the Council's advisory committees. 16 U.S.C. 839b(a)(4).
3. **Objectives and Scope of Activity:** The Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee will advise the Council regarding coal gasification power generation and associated activities and technologies. Activities of the Committee will include:
 - (A) Assisting Council staff in the identification of technical, cost, environmental and other important information and issues concerning coal gasification combined-cycle technology.
 - (B) Reviewing the information, assumptions and conclusions of the assessment of the progress of commercialization of coal gasification combined-cycle technology called for in Action GEN-7A of the Fifth Northwest Electric Power And Conservation Plan.
 - (C) Serving as a regional forum of interested and affected parties for the discussion, evaluation and exchange information concerning coal gasification power generation and associated activities and technologies.

4. Official to Whom the Advisory Committee Reports: The Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee will report to the Executive Director of the Council.
5. Authority of the Advisory Committee: The Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee will serve in an advisory capacity only. Neither the Committee nor its members are authorized to make statements or commitments on behalf of the Council. Committee members will not be considered to be members of the Council staff.
6. Estimated Annual Operating Costs in Dollars and Person-Years: \$10,000 plus one staff month.
7. Advisory Committee Management Officer: The Advisory Committee Management Officer ("Management Officer") for the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee will be the Director of the Council's Division of Power Planning. The Management Officer will designate members of the Council's staff to coordinate and attend meetings of the Committee.
8. Chair:
 - (A) The Chair of the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee will be appointed by the Chairman of the Council, with the concurrence of the Council members, and will serve at the pleasure of the Council.
 - (B) The Chair may be called upon to report to the Executive Director of the Council on appropriate matters, including the Advisory Committee's progress on the tasks described in Part 3 of this Charter.
 - (C) The duties of the Chair will include presiding over Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee meetings, ensuring that detailed minutes of such meetings are prepared and submitted to the Executive Director of the Council in a timely manner, and maintaining communication between the Committee and the Council's staff.
 - (D) The Chair will certify detailed minutes of meetings of the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee. The minutes should include a complete and accurate description on matters discussed, conclusions reached, actions taken, persons invited to meet with the Committee, and persons in attendance. The minutes also will include copies of reports received, issued or approved by the Committee. Minutes of meetings will be prepared and released within ten days of the meeting, unless an extension is granted by the Management Officer. The Management Officer will distribute copies of the minutes to members of the Committee and the other interested persons.
 - (E) Small sub-groups of the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee may be established by the Chair of the Committee to undertake particular aspects of the Committee's work. Methods for organizing the work and procedures of the Committee must follow the scope of responsibilities assigned to the Committee by the

Council. The work of the staff for the Committee will include making arrangements for Committee meetings, solving logistical problems, and providing clerical services.

9. Vice-Chair: A Vice-Chair of the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee may be appointed by the Chairman of the Council, with the concurrence of the Council members, and will serve at the pleasure of the Council. The Vice-Chair will perform the duties of the Chair of the Committee, in the absence of that Chair, and such other duties as the Chair of the Committee may assign.
10. Rules: The advisory committee rules approved and adopted by the Council on March 17, 1982, as amended from time to time, will apply to the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee.
11. Estimated Frequency of Committee Meetings: The Chair of the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee, after consultation with the Management Officer, or his designee, will call meetings as necessary. The estimated frequency of meetings is quarterly. All meetings will be open to the public, unless closed pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552b(c). Timely notice of meetings, including agendas, will be made. Interested persons may attend Committee meetings and appear before or file statements with the Committee, subject to such reasonable rules as the Council may prescribe.
12. Reimbursement of Expenses: The Council will reimburse public members of the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee for travel, including per diem in lieu of subsistence in accordance with the Council's travel regulations for contractors and advisory committee members, for the purpose of attending Committee meetings as authorized by 5 U.S.C. Section 5703. The Executive Director shall determine who are public members.
13. Duration: The Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee will terminate two years from the filing date of this Charter, unless renewed in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act. All Members of the Committee serve at the pleasure of the Council.

This Charter for the Coal Gasification Power Generation Advisory Committee was approved and adopted at a duly called meeting of the Pacific Northwest Power and Conservation Planning Council, September 14-15, 2005 at Spokane, Washington.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST ELECTRIC POWER
AND CONSERVATION PLANNING COUNCIL

By: _____
Melinda S. Eden, Chair

Date Filed: _____

