



City of Needles, California Request for Board Action

CITY COUNCIL NPUA BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
 Regular Special

Meeting Date: January 18, 2022

Title: Authorize Brooks Consulting to Develop Plans for the 69kV line for Future Load Growth not to exceed \$18,000 funded by the Electric Operating Expenses

Background: On March 29, 2017, Western Area Power Administration increased the power delivery load of the NPUA to 60 Megawatts (MW). One condition of the approval was that when the load reach 30 MW the system load would be split between Bush and Eagle Pass Substation. This load split may result in reliability issues. The current electric load has reach 22 MW during peak season.

Brooks Consulting is reviewing the current and future peak loads to develop and propose system improvements that can be implemented now to avoid future system issues. The final report will be available and presented in March to the Board of Public Utilities.

Fiscal Impact: To be funded by the Electric Operating Expenses

SM Sylvia Miledi, Finance Director

Recommended Action: Authorize Brooks Consulting to Develop Plans for the 69kV line for Future Load Growth not to exceed \$18,000 funded by the Electric Operating Expenses

Submitted By: Rainie Torrance, Assistant Utility Manager

City Management Review: Rick **Date:** 1/7/22

Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Approved: <input type="checkbox"/>	Tabled: <input type="checkbox"/>	Other: <input type="checkbox"/>
Agenda Item: <u>3.</u>			



664 Vermilion Peak Dr.
Windsor, CO 80550
678-427-0126

December 13, 2021

Rainie Torrance
City of Needles
817 Third Street
Needles CA 92363

Rainie,

There is a need to supplement the support for completing the future planning project and report for the city. As you know, there are many complex issues that together have made the way forward challenging. This study started to just simply model and look at the 69kV of Needles, which was completed after collecting the needed information and physical layout of the system. However, as this was being finished, several major issues moved to the forefront to impact the system in major ways. They include the general and specific additions of more cannabis sites, the current and future effects of growth at Moabi, a new south side substation to serve the cannabis sites, the increase in motor demand in the Fish and Wildlife site in Arizona, and the forthcoming event that Needles will exceed the WAPA allocation peak for Needles of 30MW from Noname. These challenges all affect the decisions made today for growing a quality, efficient, and timely power system to meet these issues. The initial funds have been consumed and the scope has been expanded to now review these issues and frame them for a proper system response.

The estimated supplemental need is \$18,000. This includes about \$7k of work not billed but was used to work on these issues, an additional \$7k to now complete the work and the report and develop a presentation, and about \$2.5k for the trip there to present the results to the board and others, and the balance of the estimate for travel expenses.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide important information to help Needles navigate the future development of their system.

Great regards,

Christopher L. Brooks, PE
Principal-President



Department of Energy
Western Area Power Administration
Rocky Mountain Customer Service Region
P.O. Box 3700
Loveland, CO 80539-3003

MAR 29 2017

City of Needles
Rick Daniels, City Manager
817 Third Street
Needles, CA 92363

Dear Mr. Daniels:

The City of Needles (Needles) has requested from Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) a notification identifying how much transmission capacity can be granted to serve Needles' projected increased load in the near future.

WAPA has performed studies, reviewed the information, and determined that a total of 60 Megawatts can be provided to Needles on the following conditions:

- 1) Needles must split their load between Bush and Eagle Pass;
- 2) Maintain area voltage levels above .95 per unit, which may require Needles to install additional voltage support on their system;
- 3) Needles will be required to submit a transmission service request to WAPA and follow WAPA's Tariff procedures and practices;
- 4) Needles will be required to sign both a Transmission Service Agreement and a Network Operating Agreement, which will contain the stipulations for accepting this increase of capacity.

Not adhering to items one and two may result in reliability issues causing the loss of power. Item three initiates the process of granting the additional capacity and item four ensures the stipulations of WAPA granting the transmission.

For WAPA to grant this transmission to Needles, it needs to be understood that Needles' load-serving system would be split in two, with neither normally operated interconnected to the other, and with either normally served from a radial 69kV path different than the other. So, while WAPA and Needles work on a longer term solution to support a 230 MW transmission request, there is a potential of a disturbance on those lines in either radial path to cause Needles to shed load.

Any questions related to this letter should be directed to Mr. John Steward at (602) 605-2774.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Easton
VP of Transmission Services for
CRSP, DSW and RMR