



NOVEMBER 10, 2022

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Sandra Mallory, Buildings and Energy Manager, Seattle Office of Sustainability and Environment

FROM

David Logsdon, Electrification and Strategic Technology Director, Seattle City Light David Logsdon (Nov 10, 2022 13:09 PST)

SUBJECT

Anticipated Impacts of Seattle's Carbon Building Performance Standard, SEPA

Seattle City Light has been carbon-neutral since 2005 and continues to invest in new technologies and approaches to energy conservation, energy storage, and other opportunities to meet our customers' energy needs. Furthermore, it is expected that City Light will meet or exceed the deadlines established by the Washington Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) that require utilities to serve customers with energy from 100% renewable and/or non-emitting resources by 2045 and to be greenhouse gas neutral by 2030. As customers comply with the Building Performance Standard, City Light will likely see increased demands for electricity as a pathway to reduce building emissions. City Light has a 20-year Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) that outlines the utility's long-term strategy to supply reliable electricity to customers at a reasonable cost and risk, while protecting the environment and ensuring service equity. The IRP relies on only *new* renewables (e.g., solar and wind), energy efficiency, and demand response to meet future increases in electricity demand.

To gain important insights into the potential impacts of electrification on the utility and its customers, City Light conducted an Electrification Assessment with the Electric Power Research Institute that takes a wide-ranging look at simulated scenarios of electrification to determine how the electrification of buildings, transportation, and commercial and industrial applications will impact the utility's grid. The electrification of space heating, space cooling, and water heating will cause significant increases in load over the next 20 years. The utility is leveraging the Electrification Assessment to inform City Light's other planning and forecasting efforts, such as the IRP and the load forecast, as well as our strategic objectives, policy, and program decisions to inform how City Light can best facilitate equitable electrification. To prepare for electrification, the utility is: (1) implementing a grid modernization roadmap, which includes improvements to make the grid more automated, flexible, reliable, and resilient as well as customer-facing demand response pilots; (2) partnering with customers, agencies, and institutions to secure external funding for a portfolio of electrification-enabling solutions; and (3) continuing to invest in energy efficiency as a valuable resource for both the utility and customers.

As City Light further refines and builds upon the analysis in the Electrification Assessment, we are able to use the details of the Building Performance Standard to develop more accurate modeling and planning assumptions. For example, in a follow-up analysis on the Electrification Assessment, one of the scenarios included the proposed Building Performance Standard as a part of the assumptions on

how rapidly certain electrification technologies would be adopted. The Building Performance Standard creates predictability for when and where electrification will occur in our service territory, which allows the utility to leverage the Electrification Assessment and other studies to plan appropriately. City Light looks forward to continuing to build on this effort with finalized details of the Building Performance Standard as well as other areas that have not been addressed in the initial assessment, including potential for energy savings through conservation or demand response.

SCL Letter for OSE BPS SEPA

Final Audit Report

2022-11-10

2022-11-10
Madeline Kostic (Madeline.Kostic@seattle.gov)
Signed
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