

RESOLUTION 30828

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3 A RESOLUTION requesting that the Seattle City Light Department work with the Bonneville
4 Power Administration and other stakeholders to increase transparency in the Bonneville
5 Power Administration rate process and to help ensure that its new wholesale power rates
6 will be fair and reasonable.

7 WHEREAS, the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) provides power to customers
8 throughout the Northwest through the sale of electricity from federal hydroelectric
9 generation facilities; and

10 WHEREAS, BPA and its ability to deliver low cost power to the Northwest has historically been
11 a cornerstone of the region's economic success; and

12 WHEREAS, BPA provides approximately one-third of the annual power resources of the Seattle
13 City Light Department (City Light); and

14 WHEREAS, BPA has proposed new rates to be effective starting on October 1, 2006 and will be
15 reviewing its rate proposal with customers and stakeholders throughout 2006; and

16 WHEREAS, allowing BPA stakeholders and customers the opportunity to review a wide range
17 of rate targets will lead to better understanding of policy trade-offs including related rate
18 impacts; and

19 WHEREAS, a review of BPA costs will benefit the Northwest region and be responsive to the
20 Northwest congressional delegation's request that Bonneville increase transparency in an
21 effort to lower wholesale power rates; and

22 WHEREAS, City Light customers will benefit if reductions in BPA costs lead to reductions in
23 rates paid by City Light to BPA; NOW, THEREFORE,

24 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THAT:**

25 Section 1. The City Council requests that the City Light Department work collaboratively
26 with the BPA and its many stakeholders to ensure that BPA's new rates are as low as possible
27 while still allowing BPA to fully recover its costs.
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1 Section 2. The Seattle City Council strongly supports the request of the Northwest
2 congressional delegation for increased transparency in the BPA rate process. The Seattle City
3 Council believes that BPA should be held to the same standards of transparency, openness and
4 full public participation that City Light will face when the Department presents its rate proposal
5 to the City Council in 2006. Therefore, the City Council also requests that City Light support all
6 reasonable efforts to implement the request of the Northwest congressional delegation.
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8 Adopted by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2006, and signed by me in
9 open session in authentication of its adoption this ____ day of _____, 2006.

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11 _____
12 President _____ of the City Council

13 Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2006.

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16 City Clerk

17 (Seal)
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FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	DOF Analyst/Phone:
Legislative	Carol Butler 684-3580	

Legislation Title: A Resolution requesting that the Seattle City Light Department work with the Bonneville Power Administration and other stakeholders to increase transparency in the rate process and to ensure that its new wholesale power rates will be fair and reasonable.

- **Summary of the Legislation:** This resolution requests that City Light work collaboratively with the Bonneville Power Administration and other stakeholders to ensure that Bonneville rates are as low as possible, but also ensure that Bonneville can recover its costs. The legislation also requests that City Light support all reasonable efforts to increase transparency in the rate process and support the Northwest congressional delegation request to Bonneville for a review of the costs included in the rates.
- **Background:** *(Include brief description of the purpose and context of legislation and include record of previous legislation and funding history, if applicable):* The Bonneville Power Administration has initiated the process leading to adoption of new rates to be effective October 1, 2006. A group of Northwest utilities and customers has called for the new rate to be set at \$27/ MW. This group has asked City Light to join the effort to set rates at this level. In addition, eighteen members of the Northwest congressional delegation have called for increased transparency in the rate process and for review of costs to determine whether they should be included in rates.

This resolution requests that City Light support efforts to increase transparency and reasonable efforts to keep rates as low as possible.

- *Please check one of the following:*

This legislation does not have any financial implications. *(Stop here and delete the remainder of this document prior to saving and printing.)*



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6 reasonable efforts to implement the request of the Northwest congressional delegation.
7

8 Adopted by the City Council the 12th day of December, 2005, and signed by me in
9 open session in authentication of its adoption this 12th day of December, 2005.

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12 President _____ of the City Council

13 Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2005.

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16 City Clerk

17 (Seal)
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