2013 - 2014 Seattle City Council Statement of Legislative Intent

Approved

Tab	Action	Option	Version
33	1	A	1

Budget Action Title: SPU and SCL Bill Delinquency Reduction

Councilmembers: Bagshaw; Conlin; Godden

Staff Analyst: Meg Moorehead

Budget Committee Vote:

Date	Result	SB	BH	TR	RC	TB	NL	JG	SC	MO
11/07/2012	**Pass 8- 1-Absent**	**Y**	**Y**	**-**	**Y**	**Y**	**Y**	**Y**	**Y**	**Y**

Statement of Legislative Intent:
To inform future decisions about how to reduce utility bill delinquencies by reducing overlapping billing cycles and monthly and seasonal peaks in bills, the Council requests that Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) and Seattle City Light (SCL) submit a report that:

1) Describes the relationship between due dates for SPU and SCL bills and delinquency of those bills, including any seasonal variation in that relationship.

2) Identifies ways to decouple billing cycles so that a bill for two months of SPU service is due one month and a bill for two months of City Light services is due in the next.

3) Discusses the benefits and challenges of more widespread use of budget billing -- a SCL and SPU service that averages bills over the year so that the customer receives uniform monthly bills – and whether budget billing could play a larger role in avoiding bill delinquencies.

4) Provides a progress update on SCL's data analysis of delinquent bills and how subsequent outreach is working toward reduced bill delinquency and increased assistance to low-income customers.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Libraries, Utilities, and Center

Date Due to Council: March 31, 2013