

## Columbia Ridge Renewable Power Purchase #2

<b>Date of this Brief</b>	<b>June 14, 2012</b>			
<b>Supersedes</b>	None			
<b>Key Contacts</b>	<b>Name(s)</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Short Title</b>	
	Robert Cromwell	684-3856	PCRA Director	
	Marilynn Semro	386-4539	Strategic Advisor	
<b>Council Action Required?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>If YES, within the next 3 months?</b>		<b>Yes</b>
<b>Public Hearing Required?</b>	<b>No</b>			
<b>Presenters (if applicable)</b>	Robert W. Cromwell, Jr., <i>Power Contracts &amp; Resource Acquisition Director</i>			

### Summary Statement

Under this 20-year renewable power purchase agreement Seattle City Light ('SCL') receives electrical output and environmental attributes from the expansion of the Columbia Ridge landfill electric generating facility ('Columbia Ridge Expansion' or 'Facility Expansion'), owned by WM Renewable Energy, LLC ('WMRE') and located in the City of Arlington, Gilliam County, Oregon. The Columbia Ridge Expansion will produce 6.4 MW of additional electrical output and SCL will purchase the additional net output or about 6.0 average MW ('aMW') annually. SCL will receive all of the environmental attributes associated with the additional 6.4 MW of electrical output. This Facility Expansion is expected to have a capacity factor in excess of 90%; the current facility capacity factor is almost 94%. The Facility Expansion is currently in the permitting process. Test power is expected in October 2013 with a commercial operation date expected shortly thereafter. Despite increases in equipment cost, the price is the same as for SCL's 2009 renewable power purchase from the original facility. The Columbia Ridge Expansion is an eligible renewable resource under Washington State's Energy Independence Act (Chapter 19.285 RCW) and complies with Washington State's greenhouse gas emissions rules for base load generation (Chapter 80.80 RCW).

### Background

WMRE intends to double the size of their landfill gas electric generating facility from 6.4 MW to 12.8 MW at the Columbia Ridge landfill site. Under the terms of the 2009 agreement between SCL and WMRE approved by the City Council in Ordinance 122954, SCL has the first right of refusal for any expansion.

SCL's 2010 Integrated Resource Plans calls for the purchase in advance of need when circumstances warrant. The Columbia Ridge Expansion is a low cost resource that has been highly reliable and the solid management of the resource argues in favor of its purchase. In

*City Light Issue Paper*

addition to its ability to dependably meet SCL's load growth, this resource will help SCL meet the requirements of Washington State's Energy Independence Act ("I-937").

**Key Issues**

None.

**Next Steps**

Seek legislative approval.