



# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: City Utilities - Water and Light

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: July 18, 2022

Re: Public Hearing for the 2022 Renewable Energy Plan

## Executive Summary

This is a Public Hearing for the 2022 Renewable Energy Plan. The renewable energy mandate passed by voters in 2004 and modified by council in 2014 requires that each year prior to February 1, Columbia Water & Light publicly release a Renewable Energy Plan outlining a proposal for how the City would comply with the ordinance. The Renewable Energy Plan provides details on the amount of renewable energy provided, descriptions of current and future projects, and the forecast for current and future renewable energy portfolios. Staff reports that 14.63% of all energy sources for 2021 electric retail usage was provided by the 2021 renewable portfolio.

The 2022 Renewable Energy Plan was publicly released January 31, 2022. It has been reviewed by the Water & Light Advisory Board and the Climate & Environment Commission. Ordinance requires a public hearing and a vote to approve the report.

## Discussion

Columbia Water & Light has been pursuing renewable energy sources since the mandate was passed by voter approval in 2004. The following is a list of the renewable energy quantities for 2021:

- Bluegrass Ridge Wind ----- 0.90%
- Crystal Lake Wind ----- 8.79%
- Columbia Landfill Gas ----- 1.51%
- Distributed Photovoltaics ----- 0.39%
- Jefferson City Landfill Gas ----- 1.84%
- Truman Solar----- 1.20%

Renewable Energy Total: 178,223 megawatt hours (MWH) or 14.63%

As outlined in Section 27-106(b) of the Renewable Energy Standard Ordinance, renewable energy cannot cause electric rates to increase more than 3% above what rates would be with non-renewable energy. Based on the methodology detailed in the Renewable Energy Plan, current renewable energy resources have 95.2% of the allowed cost limit or a 2.85% impact on rates.

As required by the Ordinance, the report has been reviewed by the Water & Light Advisory Board and the Climate & Environment Commission. Their comments are included with this memo.



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Since the presentation of the Renewable Energy Plan to the Water & Light Advisory Board and Climate and Environment Commission, staff had been made aware of changes that affect outcomes of the 2022 Renewable Energy Plan: 1) Finalized data received from Crystal Lake Wind resulted in an upward adjustment in megawatt hours received; 2) A capacity credit from Crystal Lake Wind resulted in a reduced total cost.

The impacts of these changes on the final version of the plan are as follows:

- The renewable energy total increased from 177,555 MWH to 178,223 MWH.
- The percentage of renewable energy received increased from 14.57% to 14.63%.
- The total cost for renewable energy changed from \$4,050,154 to \$3,686,476.25.

Recently, on June 28, 2022, staff was notified by the developer of the Boone Stephens solar field that they were terminating the purchase power agreement due to increased costs of interconnection. A copy of the notice of termination is attached. This significantly reduces the renewable energy projected in future years and alternative sources of renewable energy will need to be secured to meet goals moving forward.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: NA

Long-Term Impact: NA

## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

### Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Economic Development, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

## Legislative History

| Date       | Action                                                                                      |
|------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 07/05/2022 | R95-22 Setting a public hearing: consider the Water & Light 2022 Renewable Energy Plan.     |
| 07/06/2021 | PH26-21 Consider the Water and Light 2021 Renewable Energy Plan                             |
| 06/21/2021 | R94-21 Setting a public hearing; consider the Water and Light 2021 Renewable Energy Plan    |
| 11/16/2020 | PH44-20 Consider the Water and Light 2020 Renewable Energy Report                           |
| 11/02/2020 | R141-20 Setting a public hearing; consider the Water and Light 2020 Renewable Energy Report |



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|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 06/03/2019 | PH25-19 Consider the Water and Light 2019 Renewable Energy Report                          |
| 05/20/2019 | R73-19 Setting a public hearing; consider the Water and Light 2019 Renewable Energy Report |
| 05/21/2018 | PH15-18 Consider the Water and Light 2018 Renewable Energy Report                          |
| 05/07/2018 | R65-18 Setting a public hearing; consider the Water and Light 2018 Renewable Energy Report |
| 04/17/2017 | PH10-17 Consider the Water and Light 2017 Renewable Energy Report                          |
| 04/03/2017 | R41-17 Setting a public hearing; consider the Water and Light 2017 Renewable Energy Report |
| 05/02/2016 | PH15-16 Consider the Water and Light 2016 Renewable Energy Report                          |
| 04/18/2016 | R41-16 Setting a public hearing; consider the Water and Light 2016 Renewable Energy Report |

## Suggested Council Action

Accept the 2022 Renewable Energy Plan