

## Meeting regarding Tacoma Power

June 11, 2018

4:02 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Fund, Commissioner Stamper, Ross Petersen, Laura Berg, Erik Martin, Army Davis, Becky Butler, Steve Walton, Dianne Dorey (by phone)

Recorder: Rieva Lester

Ross Petersen discussed the major differences between Pend Oreille's interactions with Seattle City Light and Lewis County's interactions with Tacoma Power:

- Pend Oreille was able to renegotiate during relicensing
- Pend Oreille was able to partner with school districts and small towns in its efforts

Laura Berg discussed Pend Oreille's negotiation process, including the schools' involvement.

Laura said she thinks Pend Oreille used the Seattle CPI because Seattle City Light was based in Seattle. She noted that Tacoma Power is headquartered in Tacoma and provides services to the Tacoma area.

Commissioner Stamper discussed moving the payment baseline up.

Laura suggested comparing the Portland and Seattle CPIs for past years, and the group discussed the possibility of having a forensic accountant review past payments.

Laura asked if Tacoma Power has a placeholder for a third turbine in its FERC license.

Laura noted that Pend Oreille reviewed impact payments, wind farm payments, and Seattle City Light's wholesale and open market deals during its negotiation efforts. She said the county didn't review property tax differences.

### TO-DO LIST / RECAP

**Rieva:** Email Mossyrock, Morton and White Pass superintendents for amounts Tacoma Power pays annually.

**BOCC:** Discuss Tacoma Power with PUD's general manager during already scheduled meeting.

**Ross:** Review increases to Tacoma Power ratepayers as well as Tacoma Power easements and mitigation.

**Erik:** Review the FERC license – including any potential drawdown verbiage and anything discussing a third turbine – and review mitigation, taxes and lost opportunity of land value. Consider Tacoma Power role in the Cowlitz River Flood Control Zone District.

**Becky:** Compare the CPIs for Portland and Seattle.

**Dianne:** Review tax shift to citizens (dating back to 2002) caused by private lands becoming public land.

**Laura:** Provide copy of Pend Oreille's previous agreement.

The group discussed basing the payments off of production or possibly receiving power in exchange for cash.

Laura suggested looking at Tacoma Power's increases to the ratepayers.

Arny Davis left at 4:41 p.m.

Laura suggested contacting the general manager at the PUD.

Dianne said Tacoma Power has granted easements on many of its lands. Ross said he would look into those.

Laura discussed state legislation that helped Pend Oreille renegotiate with Seattle City Light. She said the statute sets precedent and could prove beneficial to Lewis County.

Meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.