



Board Action Memorandum

TO: Jackie Flowers, Director of Utilities
COPY: Charleen Jacobs, Director and Board Offices
FROM: Chris Robinson, Tacoma Power Superintendent
Ying Hall, Power Section Manager
MEETING DATE: October 26, 2022
DATE: October 7, 2022

STRATEGIC DIRECTIVE ALIGNMENT (select as many that apply):

Please indicate which of the Public Utility Board's Strategic Directives is supported by this action.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD1 – Equity & Inclusion | <input type="checkbox"/> SD8 – Telecom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD2 – Financial Sustainability | <input type="checkbox"/> SD9 – Economic Development |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SD3 – Rates | <input type="checkbox"/> SD10 – Government Relations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD4 – Stakeholder Engagement | <input type="checkbox"/> SD11 – Decarbonization/Electric Vehicles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD5 – Environmental Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> SD12 – Employee Relations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD6 – Innovation | <input type="checkbox"/> SD13 – Customer Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SD7 – Reliability & Resiliency | <input type="checkbox"/> SD14 – Resource Planning |

SUMMARY:

Tacoma Power requests approval by the Public Utility Board to revise Tacoma Municipal Code (TMC) Chapters 12.01 and 12.06A Electrical Code.

BACKGROUND:

TMC Chapter 12.06A covers Tacoma Power's rates, terms, and conditions on electric installation, inspection, and permits. TMC 12.06A.250 specifies fees for inspections and permits under various circumstances for different types of customers. TMC 12.06A.260 outlines penalty fees and fee adjustments under various circumstances. Those fees have not been updated since 2005. Tacoma Power proposes to update the fees to accurately reflect the current cost of providing the services. Tacoma Power also proposes a change to pole reconnection fees resulting from delinquency cut-offs in TMC 12.01.010 to reflect the actual cost. The pole reconnection fees have not been updated since 1985.

The proposed revision includes other minor adjustments to ordinance language to reflect the current practice. Tacoma Power proposes to delete TMC 12.06A.135 Metering Installations and Labeling because all the requirements are already covered in the Tacoma Public Utilities' standard C-MR-0005. Tacoma Power proposes to make minor modifications to the language in TMC 12.06A.230 Permit to owner - conditions to remove an unnecessary hurdle for permit application. The revised language will no longer require an owner to submit an affidavit and therefore will not need a notary witness. In addition, Tacoma Power proposes to strike out a sentence in TMC 12.06A.380 Classification of occupancies and wiring methods to remove the minimum requirement of 200 ampere service capacity. This allows customers to utilize smaller services when allowed by the National Electric Code. It will prevent customers from having to oversize their service capacity and reduce their costs.



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ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes

IF THE EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW IT IS TO BE COVERED.

Both the expense of and the revenue from the inspection, permitting, and reconnection activities are included in this biennium's budget. This update to these fees will result in a better match of revenues and expenses. When fees are out-of-date, the general retail customer base absorbs the difference between the collected fee revenue and the actual cost of providing the service. This update to fees will minimize cross-subsidization.

IF THE ACTION REQUESTED IS APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT, INCLUDE LANGUAGE IN RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING \$200,000 INCREASE IN ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY TO DIRECTOR? No

ATTACHMENTS: List any attachments (contracts, policies, agreements, etc.).
Proposed Amendments to Chapters 12.01 and 12.06A of the Tacoma Municipal Code

CONTACT:

Primary Contact: Ying Hall, Power Section Manager

Supervisor's Name: Chris Robinson, Tacoma Power Superintendent

Presenter (if different from primary contact): Chad Edinger, Power Section Assistant Manager

Additional staff requiring a Zoom presentation link: John Martinson, Power Supervisor