

To: City Council

Date: March 10, 2016

From: Tex Bradford

Re: Western State Colorado University Purchased Power Contract

Western State Colorado University is interested in installing distributed generation in the form of solar generation to be phased in over time. To do so, an amendment to the current purchased power contract between the City and the University is required. Staff has visited with representatives from the University to discuss the project. Staff has also visited with the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) in regards to the project. Neither City staff nor MEAN staff have any issues with the University moving forward with the solar project and support the University's effort.

The project would be funded by the University and the power generated by the solar panels would be utilized by the University. Other City electric customers would subsidize the cost of installing and operating the solar array.

No formal action is requested at this time but with Council's nod of approval to move forward, staff will amend the current power contract to allow the University to move forward with the project. The amended contract would be brought back to Council for consideration to approve at a later regular session meeting.

The University also purchases grid-connected Wind and Renewable Energy Credits (REC'S) from the City and the contract for these to resources will expire at the end of April. The University is considering whether are not they wish to renew one are both of these resources. If so, the contract renewal would be included within the above-mentioned amendment to the power contract for Council consideration.