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March 31, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Power Committee

FROM: Howard Schwartz

SUBJECT: Summary of Washington Utility IRPs

The Washington Legislature passed HB1010 (now codified as RCW Chapter 19.280) in 2006. It requires all electric utilities to produce a resource plan and send their plan to the Department of Commerce (Commerce) with a cover sheet that numerically summarizes that plan. Commerce is required to roll up the utility plans and provide a state-wide summary to the legislature every two years. The act requires utilities to submit a progress report every two years and a full plan update every four years following the first reporting year (2008). The seventeen largest utilities in the state are required to develop complete Integrated Resource Plans (unless they are full-requirements customers of BPA) while the rest are required to produce more modest Resource Plans.

Angela Burrell, Energy Research Analyst with the Washington Department of Commerce Energy Office, wrote the summary report that was prepared for the 2011 legislature. This report summarizes the 2010 utility progress reports by providing a look at how utilities' perspective of meeting future demand has changed since 2008. She will present an overview of her findings and highlight information that will be of particular interest to Council members and staff. The complete report may be found here: <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/site/1140/default.aspx>

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