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February 17, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Terry Morlan

SUBJECT: Presentation on the Washington State Energy Strategy

In December, the Washington Department of Commerce completed its 2012 Washington State Energy Strategy. It is the first comprehensive analysis to develop a state energy strategy for Washington since 1993.

The strategy chose a main area of focus and two other key areas that are considered to offer the greatest opportunities to transform energy use to better meet the state's major goals:

- Maintain competitive energy prices that are fair and reasonable for consumers and businesses and support our state's continued economic success;
- Increase competitiveness by fostering a clean energy economy and jobs through business and workforce development;
- Meet the state's obligations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The main area of focus is transportation and the other two key areas of potential improvement are building energy use and more diverse distributed and renewable energy supplies.

The 2012 Washington State Energy Strategy is posted on the Washington Department of Commerce website at the following link: <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/site/1327/default.aspx>

Tony Usibelli, Director of the State Energy Office at the Department of Commerce, will summarize the strategy. A copy of his PowerPoint presentation is included in the packet.

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