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**Tom Karier**  
Washington

**Phil Rockefeller**  
Washington

October 25, 2012

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Power Committee

**FROM:** Nick O'Neil, RTF Manager

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation for 2013 Regional Technical Forum Work Plan

The draft 2013 Regional Technical Forum (RTF) work plan is up for adoption by the Council at the November Council Meeting. Staff will brief the Power Committee on the draft work plan and the process to-date. The Power Committee may form a recommendation to the Council on the decision to adopt the 2013 work plan.

The Regional Technical Forum (RTF) began developing its draft 2013 work plan in August. After several iterations and revisions based on feedback and discussions, the RTF approved the draft 2013 work plan at its October 23-24 meeting and agreed to forward it to the Council for adoption.

A separate process is currently underway by the RTF Policy Advisory Committee (PAC). The RTF PAC is meeting today (packet day) to review the draft 2013 work plan and will make their own recommendation on the work plan to the Council.

Attachments (see Council packet)

Decision Memo

Presentation

RTF-Approved Draft 2013 Work Plan (available electronically and online)

RTF-Approved Draft 2013-15 Business and Operating Plan

November 5, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Jim West, Co-chair, RTF Policy Advisory Committee  
Tom Karier, Co-chair, RTF Policy Advisory Committee

**SUBJECT:** RTF 2013 WORK PLAN AND BUDGET: RECOMMENDATION OF THE  
REGIONAL TECHNICAL FORUM POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Regional Technical Forum Policy Advisory Committee (RTF PAC) has completed its review of the proposed RTF 2013 Draft Work Plan and Budget and recommends that the Council approve the 2013 Work Plan and Budget as submitted by the RTF.

The RTF PAC gave consideration to the shift away from consultant contracts in favor of using RTF contract employees for completion of some of the RTF's work. The PAC applauds the improved cost and efficiency of such an approach. At the same time, the PAC discussed whether this shift would potentially affect the independence of results by moving away from "third parties" and toward "in-house" staff. The PAC will monitor this issue and advise the Council at a later date on the ongoing independence of RTF findings.

The RTF Policy Advisory Committee appreciates the opportunity to offer this recommendation to the Council and respectfully requests approval.