



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** General Services  
**Department No.:** 063  
**For Agenda Of:** July 18, 2017  
**Placement:** Departmental  
**Estimated Tme:** 10 minutes  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:** N/A  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** General Services Janette D. Pell, Director (805) 560-1011  
Contact Info: Skip Grey, Assistant Director (805) 568-3083

**SUBJECT:** Santa Barbara County Future Renewable Energy Report

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: None

**Other Concurrence:**

As to form: None

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file the Santa Barbara County 2017 Future Renewable Energy Report;
- b) Authorize the General Services Department to solicit proposals for future renewable energy systems on County owned facilities; and
- c) Determine that the proposed actions are not a “project” as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15378(b) (5), as it is an administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect changes in the environment.

**Summary Text:**

On May 2, 2017, the Board directed General Services to return within 90 days with possible future renewable energy projects. General Services has been evaluating the feasibility of installing renewable energy systems to help reduce the cost of utilities used by the County. The County intends to reduce its carbon footprint and reduce costs paid for electricity, gas and water. The attached report outlines some of those possibilities. As a result, General Services is requesting permission to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for installation and operation of Future Renewable Energy systems for County owned facilities.

Approval of the recommendation will authorize General Services to obtain proposals for Renewable Energy systems. The RFP will ask for pricing on various configurations and a return on investment, as well as a discussion and recommendations of the advantages and disadvantages of the available financing options. The RFP will seek different options for solar thermal, solar photovoltaics, and small wind power. Once proposals are received, a detailed analysis will be completed and a presentation made to the Debt Advisory Committee for financing direction. While responses are being developed, the Capital Executive Committee will be reviewing projects identified in the Five-year 2017-2022 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for potential debt financing. The CIP and Renewable Energy projects selected will then be brought back to the Board for authorization to proceed. In the near future, General Services will return to the Board to discuss its plan for implementing energy retrofits on all county buildings.

**Background:**

On March 17, 2009, the Board adopted Resolution 09-059 which committed the County to take immediate, cost effective and coordinated steps to reduce the County's collective GHG emissions, in order to protect the community from the effects of climate change and implement programs to comply with the State of California's greenhouse gas reduction goals. Since then the County has made great policy strides toward achieving this goal.

- Benchmarking Policy - County Board adopted April 2, 2013
- Energy Action Plan - County Board adopted April 2, 2013
- Utility Manager System - County Board presented April 2, 2013
- Zero Net Energy Resolution - County Board adopted March 4, 2014
- Commissioning Policy - County Board adopted January 20, 2015
- Energy Efficiency Standards Policy-County Board adopted August 30, 2016

The County recognizes that climate change has the potential to dramatically affect our businesses and residents, as well as other communities around the world. The County also recognizes that local governments play a significant role in the efforts to reduce Greenhouse Gas emissions and mitigate the potential impacts of climate change. The benefits from these actions include lowered energy bills, improved air quality, reduced emissions, economic development, and an improved quality of life throughout the County.

General Services intends to explore various options for renewable energy opportunities on county property as well as the concept of energy retrofits in existing buildings to upgrade lighting, HVAC equipment and controls, and retro-commissioning equipment. Building efficiency upgrades (LED lighting, more efficient pumps and motors, HVAC system controls, etc.) can shrink the energy load of our buildings, allowing the County to maximize the proportion of clean power generated on-site at the least cost.

**Performance Measure:**

N/A

**Key Contract Risks:**

N/A

**Staffing Impacts:**

None

**Special Instructions:**

None

**Attachments:**

1. Santa Barbara County 2017 Future Renewable Energy Report
2. Notice of Exemption

**Authored by:**

Roy Hapeman, County Energy Manager