

Association of Bay Area Governments

Executive Board

May 19, 2022

Agenda Item 6.f.

Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN)

Subject:

Authorization to amend a Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) contract with Frontier Energy Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$90,000, for a total contract amount of \$6,533,427, for services for BayREN technical and regulatory reporting through December 31, 2022

Background:

Since 2013, the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) has implemented a portfolio of energy efficiency programs across the region. The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) serves as the program administrator and lead agency for a 10-member unincorporated association of local government entities.

On May 31, 2018, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) issued Decision 18-05-041¹ which, among other things, authorized funding for BayREN through 2025, allowed for modifications to the existing portfolio, and increased the portfolio's total and annualized budget.

ABAG has contracts with BayREN member agencies² and third-party consultants that were selected through a competitive process to assist in the implementation of the programs.

Since 2013, Frontier Energy, Inc. (Frontier) has provided BayREN with consulting services for the BayREN Codes & Standards program, and portfolio-wide technical assistance, consisting of overseeing regulatory reporting; evaluation, measurement, and verification, and assistance with strategy. Most recently, this work has included the joint development of statewide workpapers that standardize energy savings calculations for participants switching from natural gas to electricity, coordination and technical support for energy savings projections through 2031 for BayREN's residential and commercial programs, and participation in various statewide reporting subgroups. During 2020, several of BayREN's programs developed "Clean Heating" and "Electrification" pathways which encourage adoption of electric heat pumps, appliances, and heat pump water heaters as a means of decarbonizing existing buildings while improving indoor air quality and occupant comfort – Frontier was a significant contributor to these efforts.

This request provides funding to support technical and regulatory actions required for the issuance of BayREN's 2021 annual report, to subsequently develop refinements to reported metrics, and to provide for sufficient funding to extend the contract term with Frontier an additional six months, from June to December 2022.

¹ <http://docs.cpuc.ca.gov/PublishedDocs/Published/G000/M215/K706/215706139.PDF>

² The budgets for each member agency are determined by the amount of activities the agencies select and if an agency is the lead for a particular program.

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Issues:

None

Recommended Action:

The Executive Board is requested to authorize the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, or her designee, on behalf of the Association of Bay Area Governments and the Bay Area Regional Energy Network, to amend a Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN) contract with Frontier Energy, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$90,000, for a total contract amount of \$6,533,427, for services for BayREN technical and regulatory reporting through December 31, 2022.

Attachments:

Summary Approval – Frontier Energy, Inc.

Reviewed:



Therese W. McMillan