



Snoqualmie Pass Utility District

**SNOQUALMIE PASS UTILITY DISTRICT
KING AND KITTITAS COUNTIES, WASHINGTON**

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF SNOQUALMIE PASS UTILITY DISTRICT, KING AND KITTITAS COUNTIES, WASHINGTON, DECLARING AN EMERGENCY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A GENERATOR TO SERVE AS BACKUP POWER SUPPLY AT THE NEW WASTEWATER PLANT & DISTRICT OFFICE, AUTHORIZING THE IMMEDIATE PURCHASE, AND WAIVING THE FORMAL BIDDING REQUIREMENTS OF RCW 57.08.050 FOR SUCH WORK AND EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT.

WHEREAS, Snoqualmie Pass Utility District (District) is a Title 57 water-sewer special purpose district (District) providing water and wastewater disposal services within the District's designated corporate and service area boundaries; and

WHEREAS, one of the District's essential functions is to transfer and treat wastewater safely, efficiently, and in compliance with all laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the District needs to ensure its wastewater plant operates properly and can pump water from one location to another, maintain proper treatment, and discharge compliant effluent. A backup generator is required to provide power to ensures the facility is operated 24 hours per day and seven days per week in order to carry out the essential function of transferring wastewater safely, efficiently, and in compliance with all laws and regulations to its plant for treatment; and

WHEREAS, the new Generator located at the new plant/District office will also provide power to the current lagoon system and all other buildings located at the wastewater plant needed to ensure compliance and proper District operations; and

WHEREAS, the current and original Generator only provides power to the lagoon system and one building (the old office) at the plant. A new Generator is needed at the new plant and office location to ensure this plant operates properly and so that the new District office has power so that normal business can be conducted; and

WHEREAS, District staff has advised the District Board of Commissioners that the District has an immediate need to purchase a new Generator. If the District delays, the new wastewater plant system known as the MBR will be forced offline and no treatment will occur. This could also result in reduced biological activity in which all the bugs could die, forcing the



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District to drain the dead biomass and purchase new seed sludge and restart the MBR system. This would be costly and take several days of staff time to implement. The new District office would also be without power and cause delays and inefficiencies in District operations; and

WHEREAS, the District has suffered through numerous power outages the past two months. Multiple outages were greater than 24 hours in length. Record snow fall, low temperatures, and road closures have also affected the District's ability to operate efficiently. To improve reliability, District staff began looking for a generator to install at the new wastewater plant and District office to ensure that the new plant would operate during extended power outages. Staff started researching the costs and found that due to COVID and supply chain interruptions that it could take 9-12 months to receive an order and that the prices could increase during this time. The District has an immediate need for a generator at the new plant and District office and want to take advantage of the fact that there is a generator available today to purchase and have delivered in less than one month. This generator is only available as the person that ordered it canceled said order. The District is declaring an emergency to purchase as there is no time to wait for an order when the supply chain is fragile. The District believes it has the right to declare said emergency given the fragile supply chain per RCW 39.04.280(1)(b) given the fact that the supply of generators is scarce at this time; and

WHEREAS, these unforeseen circumstances are beyond the control of the District that (a) present a real, immediate threat to the proper performance of an essential function of the District, and (b) would likely result in material loss or damage to property if the system failed before immediate action was taken.

WHEREAS, District staff have recommended an emergency be declared for the purchase and to waive the formal bidding requirements set forth in RCW 57.08.050 applicable to the District to procure the necessary back up generator; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of the Snoqualmie Pass Utility District, King and Kittitas Counties, Washington, as follows:

1. The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein in full by this reference.
2. Pursuant to RCW 39.04.280(1)(b) and (c), an emergency is hereby declared for the above stated reasons to undertake work to purchase a new generator.
3. Because of the existence of an emergency and special market conditions pursuant RCW 39.04.280(1)(b) and (c), the formal bidding requirements set forth in RCW 57.08.050 for public works and equipment procurement are hereby waived for the purpose of purchasing a new generator for the new wastewater plant and District office.



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4. The District General Manager is authorized and directed to attempt to immediately purchase a new generator for the new wastewater plant and District office, with costs not to exceed \$150,000.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Snoqualmie Pass Utility District, King and Kittitas Counties, Washington, at the regular open public meeting thereof held the 24th day of January, 2022.

William Powers, Commissioner

Steve Hartpence, Commissioner

David Harja, Commissioner