To: Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council

From: Sarah Esterson, Senior Policy Advisor

Date: December 3, 2021

Re: Agenda Item F – Consultant Appointment for Assistance with the West End Solar Energy Project Application for Site Certificate for the December 16-17, 2021 EFSC Meeting (Action Item)

BACKGROUND
Pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 469.470(6), the Energy Facility Siting Council (Council) is authorized to appoint and utilize technical contractors in support of its review of materials contained in an Application for Site Certificate (ASC) or Request for Amendment of a Site Certificate (RFA).

The Oregon Department of Energy (Department) currently maintains a contract with a consulting firm, Haley & Aldrich, Inc - a professional services company with an office in Oregon, which has a team of professionals providing specialized technical consulting services (e.g. geology, engineering, archaeology, noise, land use, visual). It is important to note that Council appointment of a consultant for use in review of materials provides authorization for the Department to proceed in the contracting process.

CONSULTANT SUPPORT REQUEST
In accordance with statute, the Department requests Council approval to appoint a contractor for technical support in review of the above-referenced types of materials, including technical analysis of the preliminary ASC and drafting of the Draft Proposed Order, for the West End Solar Energy Project. The Department has determined that use of a consultant is needed, given current and forecasted workload within the Siting Division, and to support achievement of internal and regulatory milestones and deadlines in an efficient manner.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
The Department recommends that the Council find that Haley Aldrich, Inc is qualified and capable to serve as a consultant to assist with the Department’s review of materials and technical writing associated with the ASC/Draft Proposed Order for the West End Solar Energy Project.