



**Minutes**  
**Strategic Planning Committee**  
**April 13, 2023**

**Committee members present:** Dave Donelson and Mike O'Malley

**Staff members present:** Monica Indrebo, David Padgett, David Longrie, Julia Gallucci, Somer Mese, Natalie Watts, Abigail Ortega, Kim Gortz, Birgit Landin, Brian Leach, Eric Shea, Gabe Caunt, Heather Tocci, Krista Scherff-Norris, Jane Zook, Michelle Wills-Hill, Renee Adams, Justin Ziesler, Christian Nelson, Travas Deal, Tristan Gearhart, Mike Francolino, David Reeves, Jay Anderson and Larry Dunn

**City of Colorado Springs staff members present:** David Beckett and Renee Congdon

**Citizens present:** Brian Risley and David Leinweber

Call to Order

Chair Dave Donelson called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Review Minutes

The minutes from the March 9, 2023, Strategic Planning Committee meeting were reviewed for posting and approved.

Compliance Reports

Mr. David Padgett, Project and Program Management General Manager, reviewed the I-12 Environmental Stewardship compliance report. There were no additional comments or questions.

EIRP Update

Mr. David Longrie, Engineering Manager, reviewed regulations guiding the Clean Energy Plan. Mr. Longrie explained the peak load forecast out to 2050, and the effects on the peak load by increased rooftop solar, electric vehicle charging, and other considerations. Springs Utilities intends to build resources for larger loads to support new businesses and accommodate the growing population.

Mr. Longrie reviewed the planning reserve margin, with several different scenarios taken into consideration, and the Effective Load Carrying Capacity (ELCC) used to ensure Springs Utilities has adequate resources to meet the peak electric load. The ELCC, is the contribution of renewables toward the peak hour and is not equal to the nameplate capacity and diminishes as more renewables are added.

Generation resources were addressed, and Mr. Longrie highlighted the upcoming retirements of the three Birdsall power plant units within the next five years, and

potential new resources with respective in-service dates. For the portfolio comparison, various scenarios were run through the model and staff's recommended portfolio will be proposed to the Utilities Board in June 2023.

#### Water IRP Update and Conservation Overview

Ms. Kim Gortz, Manager of Water Resources, reviewed the Water Integrated Resource Planning (IRP), which involves stakeholder engagement, policy adoption, a five-year strategic implementation plan, and annual signpost evaluation and true-ups. Ms. Gortz discussed the annual resource planning cycle and the current phase of the cycle that involved forecasts, resourcing, administrative reporting, operational input and regulatory progress reports that will be incorporated into the planning update for the preliminary budget. The Continental Hoosier System Permitting, Water Sharing Program, storage and water reuse were discussed in detail with the committee.

Ms. Julia Gallucci, Water Conservation Supervisor, spoke to the water conservation portion of the plan that included updating the Water Efficiency Plan, reducing systemwide usage by 2.5%, improving residential indoor efficiency, increasing resilient landscapes, educating customers and the Accelerated Memorandum Of Understanding program.

#### Plan for future meeting: May 16, 2023

The next meeting will welcome new committee members and provide a brief orientation. The committee will also review the Clean Heat Plan Update.

#### Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m.