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September 30, 2014

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Leann Bleakney, Oregon staff

**SUBJECT:** Presentations by public power representatives

**Presenter:** Werner Buehler from Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative and Troy Cox from Columbia Power Cooperative Association

**Summary:** Werner Buehler is the Executive Vice President and General Manager of Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative. Oregon Trail is a relatively large cooperative in the state of Oregon, with 87 employees and 11 customers per mile of distribution line. Oregon Trail is one of the newest cooperatives in the U.S., having started service in 1988. The cooperative's territory includes portions of Baker, Union, Grant and Harney counties.

In contrast, the Columbia Power Cooperative Association, is a small utility with a very large and rural service territory. Troy Cox is the Manager of the utility, located in Monument, Oregon, a town of 150 people. The next nearest town is Long Creek, 21 miles away, and it also boasts a population of 150 people. The cooperative has 17 employees and fewer than 2 customers per average per mile of distribution line. The service territory, distance east to west is 100 miles and north to south is 64. The cooperative has 1200 customers.

Relevance: The managers of two Oregon public utilities will present to the Council their perspectives on issues faced by both large and small utilities in the Northwest.

Workplan: N/A

Background: N/A

More Info: N/A