



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: February 25, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a motion to approve the professional services contract with Frontier Energy for the management of GRPU Energy Conservation and Optimization (ECO) activities for approximately \$70,000 annually and authorize the General Manager to sign the agreement.

PREPARED BY: Julie Kennedy, General Manager

BACKGROUND:

Under the Energy Conservation Optimization (ECO) Act, municipal utilities in Minnesota are required to develop and file a Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) or ECO plan with the Minnesota Department of Commerce outlining annual energy-savings goals, budgets, and program offerings for electric customers. GRPU must track and report verified energy savings, expenditures, cost-effectiveness, and low-income program participation on an annual basis. Compliance also includes meeting statutory energy-savings targets and documenting performance toward greenhouse gas reduction and beneficial electrification objectives.

GRPU has been pleased with past performance and wishes to continue to work with Frontier Energy to deliver programs and assist in the management of GRPU's ECO program for 2026-2028. Program compliance includes meeting statutory energy savings targets of 1.5% of retail sales resulting in a GRPU ECO budget of approximately \$275,000. As part of the contract, Frontier staff complete activities for GRPU customers such as commercial, industrial, and residential energy audits and rebate determination, EUI savings calculations, and ECO program tracking and reporting. Specific tasks and work requests are coordinated with GRPU staff and billed monthly based on contract rates.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the professional services contract with Frontier Energy for the management of GRPU Energy Conservation and Optimization (ECO) activities for approximately \$70,000 annually and authorize the General Manager to sign the agreement.