



Council Agenda Item

Meeting Date: January 16, 2024

Agenda Item: Whitewater Solar

Staff Contact (name, email, phone): Brad Marquardt, bmarguardt@whitewater-wi.gov, 262-473-0139

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

Ranger Power, on behalf of Whitewater Solar, LLC, is requesting a 100-foot easement across the northern portion of the property owned by the Wastewater Facility to locate transmission facilities. The easement is being requested to provide connectivity from proposed solar arrays east of Whitewater to the WE Energies Whitewater Generating Station. The original proposed Agreement language provided the flexibility of either buried transmission lines or above ground structures housing the transmission lines. Per the Public Works Committee direction, the Agreement has been edited to only allow underground installation. Other suggested edits are also redlined. The City Attorney is also in the process of review.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

The Public Works Committee met on Dec 12, 2023 and recommended continuing negotiations as an underground only easement, and including a termination clause if no activity occurs in a stated period.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

Whitewater Solar will pay the City \$1,000 in consideration of the City executing the Agreement, \$1,500 as consideration for the grant of the Easements and a yearly sum of \$1.00/linear foot of the transmission line constructed in the Easement Area (approximately \$1,325) for 47 years.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff does not have a concern with granting an easement in the proposed area, as watermain and gas currently exist within the 100 foot proposed easement. If the Council is in favor of granting this easement, Staff's recommendation would be to direct staff to continue negotiations with Whitewater Solar to finalize the Agreement and bring back to Council for final approval. If there are any concerns or questions with the terms of Exhibit D, Payment Addendum, a closed session could be included at the next council meeting.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

1. Request Letter
2. Draft Transmission Facilities Agreement
3. Draft PWC Minutes