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Date: Thu, 22 Mar 2007 09:54:45 -0500
From: clewis@mpw.net
To: Bauman Robert <rjbauma@milwaukee.gov>
Cc: tmacdo@milwaukee.gov
Subject: Water Works item for Public Works Committee
Ald. Bauman,

Re: Communication file relating to an Electric Power Reliability Study for Milwaukee Water Works

I introduce this file at the Common Council meeting of today. I respectfully request that it be scheduled at the next meeting of the Committee.

As you are aware, there is no backup power at any of our facilities and in the event of a blackout or loss of critical electrical substations, there would be no water for fire fighting, toilet flushing, or drinking.

After the massive blackout of 2003, Milwaukee Water Works had an Electric Power Reliability Evaluation performed. The report provides an assessment of the reliability of power in the region (conclusion is that it is "robust") and defines requirements and costs for backup power generation for key MWW facilities. The risks of an outage are small but the consequences are very serious.

My objective in presenting this information is to ensure that Council members are aware of the current lack of backup power and to let them know that MWW will be programming backup power generation in coming years in our capital improvements budget. So I envision the discussion to be primarily a risk/benefit/cost discussion.

The report is best summarized in Table 6-3, which compares the project costs for five options, and Table 7-1, which recommends phasing in the work at various sites.

Please let me know if you anticipate discussion related to regional power reliability. If so, I could invite representatives of We Energies to be present at the meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Carrie Lewis, Superintendent
Milwaukee Water Works
x2801