



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 1/10/2023

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File #: 23-13

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**To:** Board of Supervisors  
**From:** County Administrative Office

**Agenda Section:** Departmental

**Vote Requirement:** Majority

**SUBJECT:**

Letter to Proceed with Preliminary Analysis to Consider an Advanced Energy Development Project and Mutual Non-Disclosure Agreement with Trane U.S. Inc. and Trane Technologies Company LLC

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve, and ratify the County Administrative Officer's execution of, the attached Letter to Proceed with Preliminary Analysis to Consider an Advanced Energy Development Project and Mutual Non-Disclosure Agreement with Trane U.S. Inc. and Trane Technologies Company LLC; and
2. Authorize the County Administrative Officer, or a designee thereof, to execute any and all subsequent amendments to the attached Letter to Proceed with Preliminary Analysis to Consider an Advanced Energy Development Project and Mutual Non-Disclosure Agreement with Trane U.S. Inc. and Trane Technologies Company LLC, after review and approval of County Counsel and Risk Management.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

General Fund

**DISCUSSION:**

A tremendous need for additional capacity has been identified in the southern portion of Humboldt County and there are grant opportunities, some that have rapidly approaching deadlines, that could provide funding opportunities for significant energy resiliency projects to support Humboldt County's needs.

After execution of the attached Letter to Proceed and Mutual Non-Disclosure Agreement with Trane U.S. Inc. and Trane Technologies Company LLC (Trane), the Trane team began the preliminary analysis phase to examine the major options available to the county to meet near- and long-term energy needs. Working with staff, Trane will develop a first look at scope, costs, revenue, and savings as applicable to any projects that emerge from the analysis. The output of this effort will be a preliminary

report. This report will be a presentation of preliminary findings for each option along with identifying a path forward for each applicable project. Because the different technical options typically are best served by different project development structures, the “path forward” options will be appropriate to each. Should the county elect to move forward into Detailed Design on an option presented, a separate agreement (Letter of Commitment) will need to be executed; by signing the attached Letter to Proceed, both the County of Humboldt and Trane understand and warrant that they do not have any financial obligation or commitments at this time beyond the work described within the Letter to Proceed.

Staff will return to your Board at a future date to present the findings of this analysis and to seek further direction on potential energy projects to pursue.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial commitment required at this time, other than staff time to consult with Trane.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

The recommended actions support the Board of Supervisors’ Strategic Framework by managing our resources to ensure sustainability of services.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Letter to Proceed with Preliminary Analysis to Consider an Advanced Energy Development Project with Trane U.S. Inc.
2. Mutual Non-Disclosure Agreement with Trane Technologies Company LLC

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A