



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

People serving people.

Robert Beaumont  
DIRECTOR

September 11, 2013

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MERA Executive Board  
95 Rowland Way  
Novato, CA 94945

Re: MERA Bay Hill Road Generator Replacement

Dear Directors,

The MERA system utilizes back-up generators at each equipment site. The generators start automatically should the PG&E power be lost. These generators are critical to the operation of MERA and have been employed not only during severe storms but also during scheduled and unscheduled power outages. All of the MERA generators are approximately five to ten years old depending upon when the sites were installed. The average life of a generator is ten to twelve years.

On May 8, 2013 your Board received a status report on generators, which for FY 13-14, no generator replacements were recommended. The report indicated that for FY 14-15, we will be recommending that the San Pedro Ridge, Big Rock Ridge, and Bay Hill Road generators be replaced.

In a recent inspection, we found the Bay Hill Site generator is in dire need of replacement due to severe weather conditions it has to endure and the corrosive, salt air atmosphere on the Bay Hill Site on the coast. In addition, the generator failed recent required annual load testing, and after trouble shooting, no interim corrective maintenance actions were found that could bring this generator back to operations within required specifications.

We estimate the cost for this work to be approximately \$70,000. It may be possible to recoup some of the costs though payments by subtenants at the site. The Executive Officer is reviewing lease terms and will follow up as necessary.

It is recommended that MERA approve the replacement of the Bay Hill Road generator, estimated at \$70,000.

Very truly yours,

  
Craig Tackabery  
MERA Operations Officer

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- Capital Projects
- Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA)
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- Waste Management