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**From:** Pedersen, Alex <Alex.Pedersen@seattle.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 29, 2023 12:01 PM  
**To:** Giambattista, Jennifer  
**Cc:** Balducci, Claudia; Macnab, Jeannie; Hennessey, Bob; Saffery, Susan  
**Subject:** Review requested by 6-29 on draft motion for RWQC (Pedersen edit)  
**Attachments:** Draft motion forecasting long-term capital improvement investments - Pedersen edit.docx

Hi, Jennifer.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this excellent motion!

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTION: I also consulted with the appropriate professionals at SPU and they had no edits, but I would favor adding a sentence to encourage independent expert forecasting rather than just in-house. I'm concerned that if it's just in-house, the price tag will be unnecessarily high as they put in everything they want rather than just what we need. For example, the WTD recently requested a plethora of new staff to handle all of the capital improvements they foresaw and that was a major cost-driver impacting higher-than-anticipated rate increases. Moreover, I'd appreciate the perspective of experts familiar with a greater breadth of methodologies proven to work well in forecasting in other jurisdictions, including best practices from outside of Washington State.

Adding to Section A, something similar to this: *The wastewater treatment division is encouraged to craft for consideration a competitive request for proposals that would promptly identify and engage an experienced independent expert in proven national best practices for successful forecasting methodologies to optimize efficiency and effectiveness for ratepayers.*

Thank you for asking for this input.

Regards,

**Alex Pedersen**

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