2019 RES-234

AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH MGE FOR THE PURCHASE OF RENEWABLE ELECTRIC ENERGY PRODUCED BY THE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ELECTRIC GENERATING SYSTEM AT THE DANE COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT

Dane County is committed to significantly increasing the amount of the County's electric load serviced by renewable energy sources to achieve 100% renewable status for county facilities. Purchasing 100% renewable electricity to power County buildings will significantly reduce climate changing carbon emissions. To reach this goal, Dane County and Madison Gas & Electric Company (MGE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on October 1, 2018 with the objective of pursuing the installation of a solar photovoltaic electric power generating system (PV System) at the Dane County Regional Airport (Airport). The location of the PV System will be on approximately 67 acres of Airport property that is outside of the Airport's secure fence, to the north of the Airport in the Town of Burke.

MGE will own and finance the construction and operation of the PV System at the Airport site to serve the electric power needs of the County under MGE's Renewable Energy Rider tariff approved by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin ("PSCW") in its Final Decision in Docket No. 3270-TE-102 (the "RER Tariff"). Under the terms of the RER Tariff, individual agreements to serve such electric power needs are available only to MGE utility customers and must be approved by the PSCW.

The PV System will be a 9 megawatt (MW) system estimated to produce approximately 40% of the County's electricity needs to power County facilities.

MGE and the Department of Administration have negotiated a Renewable Energy Rider Service Agreement, that provides for the dedication of output from the PV System to the County and includes other RER Tariff mandated terms and conditions(the "Service Agreement"). The Service Agreement is subject to PSCW review and approval.

Increasing the County's use of renewable electricity not only reduces climate change emissions, but saves taxpayer dollars. The 30-year Service Agreement specifies that the County will purchase approximately 18 million kWhrs annually resulting in first year energy savings of approximately $137,000. The County's purchase of renewable electricity from the Airport solar project will reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an amount equivalent to the emissions produced by 2,700 cars or the burning of 7,000 tons of coal annually.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE County Executive and the County Clerk are authorized to execute on behalf of Dane County a Service Agreement with MGE for the purchase of renewable electric energy produced by the PV System at the Airport.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Administration is authorized to take any and all steps necessary to have the Service Agreement approved by the PSCW.