

Subscription to Lippman Consulting, Inc for Web-based Natural Gas Databases

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Time Needed: Staff needs approximately 5 minutes.

Action Requested of Committee: Staff will be asking the Committee for approval to renew the subscription to Lippman Consulting natural gas pipeline and production databases for \$40,500

Business Meeting Date: Informational item

Background: Staff is requesting a one-year subscription to Lippman Consulting, Inc. for their web-based databases. Staff has been using the pipeline database and the production database as sources of data to perform research and assessments of natural gas supply. In fact, during the 2009 IEPR cycle, staff used the databases to develop tables and graphs for the reports presented during the workshops.

Lippman consulting is currently offering a suite of products that include:

Pipeline Database, Production Database, LNG Database, Storage Database, Supply & Consumption Database, Gas Power Plant Database, Gas Processing Plant Database, Gas Supply Forecast Model, and the Pipeline Forecast Loading Model .

In previous years, staff has only subscribed to the first two products (pipeline and production databases). Two year ago, staff reviewed and used the additional databases that Lippman is now offering to staff again, but found that most of the additional information in the databases is already contained in EIA's public data bases, Bentek, Ventyx or Velocity databases that we already subscribed at the Commission. However, the pipeline and production database are unique and useful. Therefore, staff recommends that we continue to subscribe to the pipeline and production databases for an additional year.

The cost of the subscription for a year is \$40,500

Justification for Action Requested: The databases are unique and includes pipeline and field production data of natural gas from North America that is not contained anywhere else.

Pros and Cons: Access to these databases will allow staff to use data to estimate current supply of natural gas from different basins, including shale.

Although all the data is publicly available, it is scatter in numerous places and individual databases. In order to collect and maintain the same data, it will take several full time staff members at the Commission.

What Happens Next:

Staff will have access to the data and will use for daily and work and as a source for natural gas assessments during the 2011 IEPR.