

# **Memorandum**

To: Energy Imbalance Market Governing Body

From: Roger Collanton, Vice President, General Counsel

**Date:** July 6, 2017

Re: Decision on Proposed Amendments to Charter for Energy Imbalance

Market Governance (Regional Issues Forum)

## This memorandum requires action by the EIM Governing Body.

The Charter for Energy Imbalance Market Governance specifies that after four or five meetings of the Regional Issues Forum, its "role and efficacy" will be reconsidered in light of experience and any changed circumstances. This evaluation process has been completed by the stakeholder liaisons who administer the Forum and they have recommended a number of changes. While many are simply administrative, and have been implemented by the liaisons themselves, two require revisions to the Charter. To implement these Charter revisions, Management proposes amendments to remove the current limit of three meetings annually, and to clarify that the Forum may discuss topics that are the subject of an ISO stakeholder process as long as those discussions do not duplicate or circumvent the stakeholder process. Also, to reflect the completion of this process, Management recommends deleting the Charter provision that required this reevaluation of the Forum.

The Charter is a Board-approved policy required by the ISO's corporate bylaws that details the mission of the EIM Governing Body and its delegated authority over certain market rules, among other things. The Charter also establishes the relationship between the ISO and the Body of Regulators (Section 5) and the Regional Issues Forum (Section 6). The Charter assigns the EIM Governing Body a primary role in recommending amendments to the latter two sections. See Section 8 ("Any changes to Sections 5 or 6 that the EIM Governing Body advises the Board to approve will be placed initially on the Board's consent agenda"). The amendments proposed in this memorandum fall within this delegation of authority.

Management proposes the following motion:

Moved, that the EIM Governing Body advises the Board of Governors to approve the proposed amendments to the Charter for Energy Imbalance Market Governance, attached to the memorandum dated July 6, 2017.

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## Background: The Regional Issues Forum and the ISO Stakeholder Process

The Forum was initially conceived by the EIM Transitional Committee as a tool for stakeholders, including neighboring balancing authorities that had not joined the western energy imbalance market, to "work through and resolve operational issues associated with EIM operation and expansion" in a committee structure similar to those employed at eastern RTOs. The Transitional Committee also addressed concerns about the relationship between this new structure and the ISO's stakeholder process:

The Committee recognizes that the stakeholder committees in other centralized markets are, in every case, part of a larger formal structure for stakeholder input that is employed instead of the open stakeholder process that the ISO uses. The Transitional Committee, however, does not wish to displace the ISO's existing stakeholder process, which it strongly supports, either directly or indirectly, for example by making the Regional [Issues Forum] the focal point of that process.

After receiving stakeholder input on the concept, in its Final Proposal the Transitional Committee expanded the focus of the Regional Issues Forum to encompass any "issues relevant to EIM." At the same time, they limited the number of Forum meetings to three per year:

As we stated in the Draft Final Proposal, we do not wish to displace the existing stakeholder process, but merely to provide a platform for focused policy input on this particular market from affected entities that may not participate regularly in the broader ISO stakeholder process. ... the Regional Issues Forum will meet three times per year. This should assuage any concerns that the Regional Issues Forum will substantially overlap the stakeholder process or transform the Forum into a "super-stakeholder" process, as it will not meet with enough frequency to engage on frequent and granular market design issues.

In addition, the Transitional Committee recommended that the role of the Forum should be subject to adjustment based on experience:

[A]fter 18 months (4-5 meetings), the efficacy and role of the Regional Issues Forum will be reconsidered through a stakeholder process within the broader EIM stakeholder processes, reflecting not only its performance but any changed governance structures and regional market development as a whole.

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#### The Re-evaluation Process and the Recommendations of the Forum Liaisons

The Forum liaisons have administered the re-evaluation process envisioned by the Transitional Committee. They obtained several rounds of feedback from stakeholders, as follows:

- On February 7, 2017, the liaisons posted a discussion document concerning the re-evaluation and associated process. Stakeholders submitted 12 sets of written comments on the discussion document.<sup>1</sup>
- On February 28, during the meeting of the EIM Governing Body, there was an open discussion involving the liaisons and other stakeholders concerning the role of the Forum.
- The liaisons posted an Issue Paper for comments on April 4. Stakeholders submitted five sets of written comments on the paper.

On June 7, the liaisons posted a final proposal that recommends adjustments to how the Forum operates. Consistent with the Charter's direction that the Forum should "establish its own procedures," many of the recommended changes have been implemented by the liaisons already. Two of the recommendations implicate provisions of the Board's Charter. First, the liaisons recommend removing the Charter's cap on the number of annual meetings, so that the Forum will meet at least three times a year, and can meet more frequently as issues warrant. Second, the liaisons would like to clarify that the Charter does allow flexibility to discuss topics that are the subject of an ongoing "stakeholder process, as long as any discussions ... are not duplicative or in circumvention of the formal ISO stakeholder process." The final proposal explains:

It is the Liaisons' desire to clarify the ability of the [Forum] and the stakeholders that attend ... to periodically discuss items that may already be in a formal ISO stakeholder process. In making this proposal, the Liaisons emphasize that the [Forum's] primary function is to facilitate a forum for discussion or to provide educational or information content and that it is not the [Forum's] desire to duplicate or circumvent the formal ISO stakeholder processes. [Forum] discussions should not be considered a part of any formal stakeholder process currently underway at the ISO. However, Liaisons believe that ... agenda items may at times overlap with items that are already within a formal stakeholder process and that a bright line exclusion of any such

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The papers and stakeholder comments are all available at <a href="http://www.caiso.com/informed/Pages/BoardCommittees/EnergyImbalanceMarketGoverningBody/EIMRe">http://www.caiso.com/informed/Pages/BoardCommittees/EnergyImbalanceMarketGoverningBody/EIMRe</a> gionalIssuesForum.aspx

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> On June 7, the liaisons posted revised Operating Guidelines that reflect these changes.

discussion runs counter to the stated purpose of the [Forum] to enhance understanding of emerging EIM issues and provide a forum for open discussion.

## Management's Recommended Revisions to the Charter

Management believes the proposed clarification of the relationship between Forum discussions and the stakeholder process is helpful. Having the Forum discuss topics that might, on occasion, overlap with part of an ongoing stakeholder process is not a problem, and likely beneficial, provided that, as the liaisons' final proposal emphasizes, these discussions not circumvent or duplicate the stakeholder process. With this change, Management supports removing the limit on the number of annual meetings, because the primary purpose of that limit was to ensure that the Forum did not displace the stakeholder process.

Management proposes conforming changes to the Charter, as follows.

The sentence that previously limited the number of annual meetings will be revised to say that the Forum will meet "at least three times annually, as determined by the stakeholder liaisons who organize the meetings."

The section about the purpose of the Forum will be modified to add the following language:

"The Regional Issues Forum may, on occasion, discuss items that may already be in an ongoing ISO stakeholder process. In such instances, the function of the Forum will be to facilitate discussion or to provide educational or informational content and not to serve as a means for duplicating or circumventing the formal ISO stakeholder process. Such discussions should not be considered to be a part of any such formal stakeholder process and should not result in an opinion of the Forum on such issues."

This language is drawn from the liaisons' final proposal. Management has added only the further clarification that it would circumvent or duplicate the stakeholder process if the Forum were to generate an opinion on an issue that is part of an ongoing stakeholder discussion. Of course, stakeholders who participate in Forum discussions are encouraged to submit the views they have developed as comments in the stakeholder process.

Finally, recognizing that these revisions would complete the process of reconsidering the efficacy and role of the Forum, Management proposes to delete Section 6.1.3, which requires the reconsideration to occur "[a]fter four to five meetings of the Forum." There will be another opportunity to consider the role of the Forum when EIM governance is re-evaluated beginning in late 2020.

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A redline of the proposed charter is enclosed.

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**Charter for Energy Imbalance Market Governance** 

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This Charter establishes the EIM Governing Body, its responsibilities and procedures. In addition, this Charter establishes two other components of the overall governance structure for the EIM: a Body of Regulators and a Regional Issues Forum.

This Charter is intended as a component of the governance framework within which the Board of Governors directs the affairs of the ISO.

## 1. Membership & Qualifications

#### 1.1 Membership:

- 1.1.1 A full EIM Governing Body shall have five members.
- 1.1.2 Members must be independent of ISO market participants and stakeholders, and otherwise comply with the Code of Conduct and Ethical Principles as it applies to Governors of the ISO.
- 1.1.3 Members must execute a written services agreement with the ISO, as provided in the ISO bylaws.

#### 1.2 Selection:

Members of the EIM Governing Body will be selected pursuant to the Selection Policy for the EIM Governing Body.

#### 1.3 Terms of Office:

Except for the first terms of the initial members of the EIM Governing Body, all terms will be three years. The first terms of the initial members will be established by the Board of Governors so that terms are staggered. Members may serve a maximum of three terms, excluding any term that is less than three years.

#### 1.4 Resignation and Vacancies:

A resignation shall be effective upon receipt of written notice by the Chair of the EIM Governing Body, the President or the Corporate Secretary, unless the notice specifies a later time of effectiveness. If a vacancy occurs and eighteen months or more will remain of the term of the departing member, a replacement member shall be selected to fill the vacancy pursuant to the Policy for Selection of the EIM Governing Body. If a vacancy occurs and less than eighteen months remain of the term of the departing member, the EIM Governing Body may, in its sole discretion, request that a replacement member shall be selected to fill the vacancy pursuant to the Selection Policy for the EIM Governing Body. If the EIM Governing Body does not direct that a replacement member shall be selected, then the seat of the departing member will be filled after his or her term would have expired. A member selected as a replacement shall serve the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

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#### 2. Mission and Responsibilities

2.1 Mission: The EIM Governing Body shall promote, protect and expand the success of the EIM for the benefit of its participants as a whole, with due consideration of the interests of all participants in the ISO's real-time market, including both participants transacting in the ISO's balancing authority area and participants transacting in EIM balancing authority areas (meaning the balancing authority areas of EIM entities, collectively).

The EIM Governing Body shall make decisions and recommendations that will:

- Help control costs to ensure that favorable cost/benefit ratios are maintained for the benefit of market participants;
- Protect the ISO market, including the EIM, its participants, and consumers against the exercise of market power or manipulation and otherwise further just and reasonable market outcomes;
- Facilitate and maintain compliance with other applicable legal requirements, including but not limited to environmental regulations and states' renewable energy goals;
- Allow EIM Entities to withdraw from the EIM prior to any action that would cause or create an exit fee; and
- Allow options to expand the functionality of the ISO market to provide additional services.
- 2.2 Areas of Responsibility / Delegation of Authority:
  - 2.2.1 Decisions and Recommendations about Market Rule Changes

Through the ISO bylaws, the Board of Governors has delegated certain authority to the EIM Governing Body to approve or reject proposed amendments to the Tariff. The Board has also authorized the EIM Governing Body to provide it with advisory input on certain other market rules, as follows:

- "Primary authority": The EIM Governing Body will have primary authority to approve or reject proposed changes to market rules that are EIM-specific insofar as they apply uniquely to EIM balancing authority areas, or differently to EIM balancing authority areas than to other areas within the ISO's real-time market, and
- "Advisory authority": The EIM Governing Body will have advisory authority over rules that govern participation in the ISO's entire real-time market, including rules that specifically govern the real-time market or rules that generally apply to any participation in ISO markets.

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The role of the EIM Governing Body will differ depending on which of these two classifications applies to the proposed changes. As a policy initiative progresses, ISO staff will label the initiatives as falling within one of the following four categories, according to a guidance document and process to be approved by the Board of Governors:

Category	Description	Process for Approval
1 - Initiative Falls Entirely within EIM Governing Body's Primary Authority	Any policy initiatives that involve market rules changes that fall entirely within the EIM governing body's primary authority	The policy initiative goes first to the EIM governing body for approval, and then to the consent agenda of the ISO Board
2 - Initiative Falls Entirely within EIM Governing Body's Advisory Authority	Any policy initiatives that involve market rules changes that fall entirely within the advisory authority of the EIM governing body	The policy initiative goes to the ISO Board for approval and the EIM governing body is authorized to provide advisory input
3 - Hybrid Where Primary Driver For Initiative is EIM-Specific	When the primary driver for the initiative is EIM and the policy initiative is a hybrid in that it has <b>both</b> a component that would fall within the EIM governing body's primary authority and a component that would fall within its advisory authority	The whole policy initiative goes first to the EIM governing body for approval, and then the ISO Board would consider the entirety of the proposal on a nonconsent-agenda basis; in other words, both bodies would need to approve the initiative in its entirety
4 - Hybrid Where Primary Driver For Initiative is not EIM-Specific	When the primary driver for the initiative is <i>not</i> EIM and the policy initiative is a hybrid in that it has <i>both</i> a component that would fall within the EIM governing body's primary authority and a component that would fall within its advisory authority	The EIM components of the policy initiative would first go to the EIM governing body for approval. Then, the ISO Board would consider the entirety of the proposal on a non-consent-agenda basis; in other words, the EIM governing body would need to have approved the EIM components and the ISO Board would need to have approved the entirety of the initiative

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#### 2.2.2 Dispute Resolution Procedure

If either the Chair of the Governing Board or the Chair of the EIM Governing Body notifies the Corporate Secretary that he or she objects to an initial determination by ISO employees about how to categorize a policy initiative that proposes to amend or modify the ISO Tariff, the Corporate Secretary will schedule a joint meeting of the Governing Board and the EIM Governing Body to decide the issue. The joint meeting will be governed by the rules and policies that govern meetings of the Board of Governors except as follows:

- (i) A quorum must be present from both the Governing Board and the EIM Governing Body, and
- (ii) The joint bodies will determine how to classify the proposed amendment or modification. The act of the joint bodies will be determined by the affirmative vote of a majority of the combined members of both bodies who are participating in the joint meeting. If the vote is a tie, the matter shall be decided by the vote of the Chair of the Governing Board.

#### 2.2.3 Exigent Circumstances

- 2.2.3.1 For any policy initiative that falls entirely within the primary authority of the EIM Governing Body, the Governing Board shall be deemed to have approved an amendment or modification to the Tariff if both of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (i) the proposed amendment or modification to the Tariff will be effective for no longer than 90 days; and
- (ii) in approving the amendment or modification to the Tariff, the EIM Governing Body finds that exigent circumstances exist such that any further delay necessary to obtain the approval of the Governing Board could jeopardize the reliability of the transmission system or risk material manipulation of the market.
- 2.2.3.2 For any hybrid policy initiative that includes both a component that would fall within the EIM governing body's primary authority and a component that would fall within its advisory authority, the EIM Governing Body shall be deemed to have approved the proposed amendment or modification to the Tariff if both of the following conditions are satisfied:
- (i) the proposed amendment or modification to the Tariff will be effective for no longer than 90 days; and
- (ii) in approving the amendment or modification to the Tariff,

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the Governing Board finds that exigent circumstances exist such that any further delay necessary to obtain the approval of the EIM Governing Body could jeopardize the reliability of the transmission system or risk material manipulation of the market.

#### 2.2.4 Re-Evaluating EIM Governance

No later than September 2020, the EIM Governing Body will initiate a review of EIM governance in light of accumulated experience and changed circumstances.

### 3. Administration of the EIM Governing Body

- 3.1 The ISO will assign a full-time staff member to serve the administrative needs of the EIM Governing Body and to ensure that other ISO personnel provide any support needed by the EIM Governing Body.
- 3.2 In discharging its responsibilities, the EIM Governing Body may inquire into any matter it considers appropriate and relevant to its mission, and may have access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of the ISO. The EIM Governing Body should report to the Governing Board if it believes that the ISO has failed to provide adequate resources to support the EIM Governing Body's fulfillment of its responsibilities.
- 3.3 The EIM Governing Body shall select a Chair from among its Members who will preside over meetings, serve as the primary contact with ISO management, and enlist the necessary assistance of other members of the EIM Governing Body in accomplishing the responsibilities assigned to the EIM Governing Body.
- 3.4 A quorum for any meeting of the EIM Governing Body shall be two-thirds of the members then in office. A meeting at which a quorum is initially present may continue to transact business notwithstanding the withdrawal of members, provided that any action taken is approved by the required number of members, as specified in these bylaws. Two-thirds of the members then present, whether or not constituting a quorum, may adjourn any meeting to another time and place.
- 3.5 The affirmative vote of a majority of the members then in office shall be the act of the EIM Governing Body. Each member shall have one vote. Members who have recused themselves on a particular matter will not be counted for purposes of determining whether a sufficient vote exists for purposes of actions taken by the EIM Governing Body on that matter.
- 3.6 The EIM Governing Body may fix its own time and place of meetings.

  Meetings may be called by the Chair of the governing body at such dates, time and places as the EIM Governing Body shall determine. The regularly scheduled meetings of the EIM Governing Body shall be established in advance for each calendar year.

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- 3.7 Special meetings of the EIM Governing Body may be called at any time by the President, the Chair or a majority of the members of the EIM Governing Body then in office.
- 3.8 Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the ISO's Open Meeting Policy, as if the EIM Governing Body were the Board of Governors. In addition, to ensure open access to the meetings as well as adequate notice to both the public and members of the EIM Governing Body, meetings will be governed by Article III Section 7.3, 8 through 10 and 17 of the ISO bylaws as if the term "Governing Board" in those sections referred to the EIM Governing Body and the term "Governor" or "Governors" referred to members of the EIM Governing Body.
- 3.9 Minutes shall be kept of each meeting, and shall be maintained as a record of the ISO.

#### 4. Secretary

The Corporate Secretary or his or her designee will serve as the Secretary to the EIM Governing Body.

#### 5. Body of Regulators

- 5.1 ISO staff shall facilitate periodic meetings by a Body of Regulators.
- 5.1.1 Membership: The Body of Regulators will consist of one commissioner from each of the state public utilities commissions in which a load-serving utility participates in the ISO real-time market, including both the ISO balancing authority area and EIM balancing authority areas. Each state public utilities commission will select its own representative to the body. When necessary, a state public utilities commission may select a representative who is not a commissioner.

#### 5.1.2 Purposes:

- 5.1.2.1 Nominating committee: The Body of Regulators may select a voting member of the Nominating Committee for the EIM Governing Body, as provided in the Selection Policy for the EIM Governing Body.
- 5.1.2.2 Inform regulators: Through its meetings, the Body of Regulators with assistance from ISO staff will inform regulators about the EIM, the EIM Governing Body and related ISO developments that may be relevant to their jurisdictional responsibilities.
- 5.1.2.3 Advice and input: The Body of Regulators should provide advice to the EIM Governing Body upon request, and otherwise provide input to the EIM Governing Body.

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- 5.1.3 The Body of Regulators should conduct periodic meetings. In order to reduce travel costs and facilitate attendance, meetings may be held in conjunction with the meetings of other groups that members may attend, such as the Western Interstate Energy Board.
- 5.2 Self-Governing: The Body of Regulators may establish its own rules, procedures or practices to govern meetings. Membership in the Body of Regulators does not restrict members from taking any position before FERC or in any other forum concerning matters related to the ISO or the EIM.

#### 6. Regional Issues Forum

- 6.1 A Regional Issues Forum will meet <u>at least</u> three times annually, <u>as determined</u> by the stakeholder liaisons who organize the meetings.
  - 6.1.1 Frequency and Purpose: The Regional Issue Forums shall discuss broad issues related to EIM. Generally speaking, the Regional Issues Forum would not consider individual policy issues that are currently part of an ongoing stakeholder process, but rather address broader issues of EIM operations. The Regional Issues Forum may, on occasion, discuss items that may already be in an ongoing ISO stakeholder process. In such instances, the function of the Forum will be to facilitate discussion or to provide educational or informational content and not to serve as a means for duplicating or circumventing the formal ISO stakeholder process. Such discussions should not be considered to be a part of any such formal stakeholder process and should not result in an opinion of the Forum on such issues. The Forum may share opinions on issues regarding EIM and relevant topics, or address topics suggested by the ISO. The forums may produce documents or opinions for the benefit of the EIM Governing Body or the ISO. The Forum is expected to establish its own procedures and methods of operation.
  - 6.1.2 Open meetings and availability of materials: The meetings of the Forum will be open to all members of the public. All materials used in or generated by the meetings shall be made available to the public.
  - 6.1.3 Meetings organized by stakeholder liaisons: Meetings will be organized by liaisons, who will facilitate input and participation from their respective sectors on the topics and content of the meeting in order to ensure that a diversity of input is heard. Liaisons will be selected as described below in Section 6.2. Liaisons and the organizations they are affiliated with will be responsible for all costs associated with organizing and traveling to meetings.
- 6.2 Selection of Liaisons: Liaisons of this Regional Issues Forum shall be selfselected by each of the sectors described below in a manner similar to how stakeholder sectors select representatives to evaluate candidates for the ISO Board of Governors, and how they selected nominees to the EIM Transitional Committee. The following sectors may select two liaisons each:
  - Transmission-owning utilities: These entities will be within the EIM footprint, and could be EIM Entities or Participating Transmission Owners;

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- Independent generators and marketers: Independent generators must be located within the EIM footprint and marketers must be transacting within the EIM footprints;
- Publicly-owned utilities: This sector will be made up of publicly-owned utilities (including rural cooperatives), and any federal or state entities, that are within the EIM footprint. Examples of state and federal entities include power marketing administrations (BPA and WAPA) and state agencies (the California Department of Water Resources, Colorado River Commission and others);
- Public interest groups and consumer advocates: This sector will include organizations that represent the public interest or end-use customers; and
- Neighboring adjacent balancing authority areas: This sector will include any balancing authority area whether public or investor owned, including any non-participating power marketing administration that interconnects with the EIM footprint.
- 6.1.3 Review: After four to five meetings of the Forum or, even if the Forum has not met four times, beginning in April 2017, the efficacy and role of the Regional Issues Forum will be reconsidered through a stakeholder process, considering its performance and also any changed governance structures and regional market development as a whole.

#### 7. ISO Support for the Body of Regulators and the Regional Issues Forum

- 7.1 The ISO will identify a staff liaison for the Body of Regulators, who will provide the body with assistance and support to perform its functions, as appropriate and necessary. Such assistance will include facilitation of meetings, if requested by the Body of Regulators, education and information about the EIM and the activities of the EIM Governing Body, and reimburse travel expenses incurred by one representative from each state commission to attend meetings, to the extent reimbursement is requested and permitted under applicable state ethics rules.
- 7.2 The ISO shall assist the Regional Issues Forum liaisons in communicating with stakeholders and coordinating meetings, including meetings that the liaisons choose to hold at ISO facilities. The ISO will not be responsible for preparing reports or other written work product for the Regional Issues Forum. ISO staff may choose to respond to any written work product generated by the forum and will be available to work collaboratively with liaisons.

## 8. Modifications of this Charter

Substantive changes to this Charter must be approved by the Board of Governors.

Any proposed substantive changes will be presented first to the EIM Governing Body for its advisory input to the Board of Governors. Any changes to Sections 5 or 6 that the EIM Governing Body advises the Board to approve will be placed initially on the Board's consent agenda.

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Management will review this charter on an annual basis and recommend any updates in accordance with the procedures in this Section.

# WESTERN ENERGY IMBALANCE MARKET



**EIM Governing Body** 

**July 13, 2017** 

Decision on Proposed Amendments to Charter for Energy Imbalance Market Governance

**General Session** 

# **Motion**

Moved, that the EIM Governing Body advises the Board of Governors to approve on its consent agenda the proposed amendments to the Charter for Energy Imbalance Market Governance, attached to the memorandum dated July 6, 2017.

Moved: Fong Second: Howe

EIM Govern	ning Body Action: Passed	Vote Count: 5-0	
Fong	Υ		
Howe	Υ		
Linvill	Υ		
Prescott	Υ		
Schmidt	Υ		

Motion Number: 2017-07-G5