

DEPARTMENT OF ENTERPRISE SERVICES

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June 18, 2021

The Honorable David Frockt Washington State Senate Ways and Means Committee PO Box 40446 Olympia, WA 98504-0446

The Honorable Steve Tharinger House of Representatives Capital Budget Committee PO Box 40600 Olympia, WA 98504-0600

RE: Campus-Wide Electrical Service Panels - Arc Flash Study (40000151)

Dear Senator Frockt and Representative Tharinger:

The Department of Enterprise Services (DES) is pleased to forward an Executive Summary of the final Campus-Wide Electrical Service Panels - Arc Flash Study (40000151) Report in accordance with SHB 1102 Section 1086(3). The full report is comprised of the Executive Summary and 41 individual facility-specific analytical reports concerning code or safety requirements, identified risks and hazards, and the necessary labeling to identify associated risks accessing high hazard panels. Preparation of the report began in October 2019, and the final report was completed in March 2020.

During the preparation of this report, Qualified Electrical Worker Training was held on November 3 and 4, 2020, and seven DES electricians participated. This training was intended to expand staff knowledge of OSHA and NFPA 70E regulations, labeling system, electrical single-line drawings and proper process for de-energizing equipment.

In addition, Electrical Safety in the Workplace (NFPA 70E) training was held remotely on November 17, 2020. An estimated 40 persons, including other DES maintenance personnel, property managers, project managers, and program managers, participated in this 2-hour training.

The report also includes a recommended Electrical Safe Work Program (ESWP). This program is intended to provide DES electricians the resources to remain compliant with OSHA guidelines and provides necessary tools and documentation to safely perform most electrical tasks.

In addition, the report highlights recommended levels of personal protective equipment (PPE) based on the labeling and rating of each high-risk panel within each facility. The new labeling allows electricians to identify and understand the high-energy hazards and the required PPE to safely perform maintenance on the panels.

The total cost for the PPE would be \$14,000 (highest amount). The required PPE costs to safely work on the high-energy panels is estimated to range between \$1,300 to \$2,000 per person for the highest safety level (e.g. 40 calorie suit). A total of seven employees are in need of this PPE. (Note: A "40 calorie suit" is suitable to work on both the 12 calorie and 40 calorie levels, which are present on campus. Anything above the 40 calorie level must be de-energized for safe access).

Portions of the full report may be sensitive in nature with regard to individual facilities or vital building systems, and may not be fully appropriate for public disclosure. Copies of the full report can be made available upon specific request.

For more information about this report, please contact Bill Frare, Assistant Director of Facility Professional Services, at 360-280-6083 or Bill.Frare@des.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Annette Weyer
Annette Meyer
Acting Director

Attachment

cc: David Schumacher, Director, Office of Financial Management Bill Frare, Assistant Director, Department of Enterprise Services Ann Larson, Director of Government Relations, Department of Enterprise Services