SUMMARY

The National Guard is responsible to operate and provide utility services for all of their facilities.

DISCUSSION

The National Guard currently has in excess of 967,000 square feet of facilities in the state. During the past year the National Guard has experienced a 23% increase in natural gas costs and a 10% increase in electrical expenses. It is unknown at this time if this is the extent of what is to be expected for utility costs. The Division of Facilities Construction and Management is experiencing the same concerns for utility increases at all state facilities.

The National Guard is projecting a shortfall of $376,500 for utility expenses if no further increases are imposed. They have requested an additional $146,800 from the General Fund and $229,700 from Federal Funds to complete the unfunded portion of utility costs for FY 2009 and FY 2010.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The Analyst recommends that the Transportation, Environmental Quality, and National Guard Appropriations Subcommittee consider the funding $146,800 from the General Fund and $229,700 from Federal Funds in FY 2009 and the same amount in FY 2010 to pay for utility increases at National Guard facilities.