

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: ELECTRIC SUBSTATION CONTROL PANEL INSTALLATIONS

BACKGROUND:

On April 26, 2011, City Council approved preliminary plans and specifications for Vet Med Substation Control Panel Installations. This project involves the purchase and installation of four 69 kV relay panels which are needed to upgrade transmission line relaying at the Dayton Avenue, Mortensen Road, Ontario Road and Stange Road Substations. These additional relay panels are included in the Engineering Services Contract for the Vet Med Substation Expansion as an optional scope of work, since they are part of the same 69kV transmission "loop" that extends from the Stange Road Substation, through the Vet Med Substation, to the Dayton Avenue Substation.

Bid documents were issued to six potential bidders. The bid was advertised on the Current Bid Opportunities section of the Purchasing webpage and a Legal Notice was published in the Ames Tribune.

On May 25, 2011, three bids were received as shown on the attached report. Electric Services staff and an engineer from Dewild Grant Reckert & Associates (DGR) Company reviewed the bids. This group concluded that the apparent low bid in the amount of \$119,623.19, submitted by Electrical Power Products, Inc., Des Moines, IA, is acceptable.

The Engineer's estimate of the cost of material and installation included in this bid is \$190,000. Electric services' approved FY 2010/11 Capital Improvements Plan for the Vet Med Expansion Project includes approximately \$3,940,000 currently allocated for completion of the Vet Med Expansion Project, of which there remains an unencumbered balance of \$186, 983 available for this purchase.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to Electrical Power Products, Inc., Des Moines, IA, for the substation control panel installations in the amount of \$119,623.19.
2. Reject all bids and delay the control panel upgrades.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This purchase is necessary in order to improve reliability to Ames' electric system by replacing aging electromechanical relays with faster, microprocessor-based relays

which require less maintenance. This new equipment will isolate faults more quickly, thereby allowing for better service reliability to Ames' electric customers. The funding for this work is available within the Vet Med Expansion Project.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, thereby awarding a contract to Electrical Power Products, Inc., Des Moines, IA, in the amount of \$119,623.19 for the substation control panel installations.



**INVITATION TO BID NO. 2011-200
VET MED SUBSTATION CONTROL PANEL INSTALLATIONS**

BIDDER	BASE	ALTERNATE	OPTIONAL PRICE REDUCTION FOR FURNISH ONLY
Electrical Power Products Des Moines, IA	\$119,623.19	No Bid	No Bid
Harold K. Scholz Co., Ralston, NE	\$215,575.33	No Bid	No Bid
Utilities Plus Energy Services, Inc., Eveleth, MN	\$268,284.71	\$115,855.28	\$30,140.00

All totals are inclusive of 7% Iowa sales tax