

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR FURNISHING
69KV SF6 CIRCUIT BREAKERS**

BACKGROUND:

Electric Services needs to procure 69kV SF6 circuit breakers for replacement of existing three-tank oil filled circuit breakers at the Ames Plant Switchyard. These circuit breakers are utilized to disconnect portions of the electric transmission system when there is a fault on that portion of the system. This helps prevent damage to property and equipment, reduces the length of an outage, and minimizes the risk to staff or the public who may be near an electric fault.

The Engineer's estimate of the cost of these circuit breakers is \$150,000. Funding is available from the FY 2014/15 maintenance account for Minor Transmission Substation Improvements.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the preliminary plans and specifications for Furnishing 69kV SF6 Circuit Breakers and set September 10, 2014, as the bid due date and September 23, 2014, as the date of public hearing and award of contract.
2. Do not approve the plans and specifications at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The purchase of this equipment is necessary to replace antiquated three-tank oil circuit breakers. Replacement parts for these circuit breakers are becoming more difficult to procure and repair work more costly to perform. The replacement of these breakers will reduce the risk of oil leakage should the circuit breaker fail. They will also improve the reliability and speed of response of the protection schemes on this portion of the electric transmission system.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.