COUNCIL ACTION FORM

<u>SUBJECT</u>: POWER PLANT FUEL CONVERSION – DISTRIBUTED CONTROL SYSTEM (DCS) REPORT OF BIDS

BACKGROUND:

On November 12, 2013, the City Council voted to convert the City's Power Plant from coal to natural gas. Implementing this decision requires a significant amount of engineering, installation of equipment, and modification and construction in the Power Plant.

In conjunction with this conversion, on November 25, 2014 the City Council approved preliminary plans and specifications for the Distributed Control System. This specific phase of the project is to purchase the new Distributed Control System (DCS). The DCS is a dedicated control system, made up of hardware and software, used for boiler controls and power plant systems. It is a crucial coordinating and communication system needed to operate the plant.

Bid documents were issued to fifteen companies. The bid was advertised on the Current Bid Opportunities section of the Purchasing webpage and a Legal Notice was published in the Ames Tribune. The Engineer's estimate of the cost for this phase of the project is \$1,161,000.

On January 28, 2015, three bids were received as shown on the attached report. The specifications and bids are quite complex, and Electric Services staff feels that additional time is needed to evaluate each bid in order to recommend an award that best meets the City's needs.

The approved FY 2014/15 Capital Improvements Plan for Electric Services includes \$36,880,000 for the Unit #7 and #8 Fuel Conversion. This amount includes \$2,000,000 for engineering and \$34,880,000 for equipment and installation.

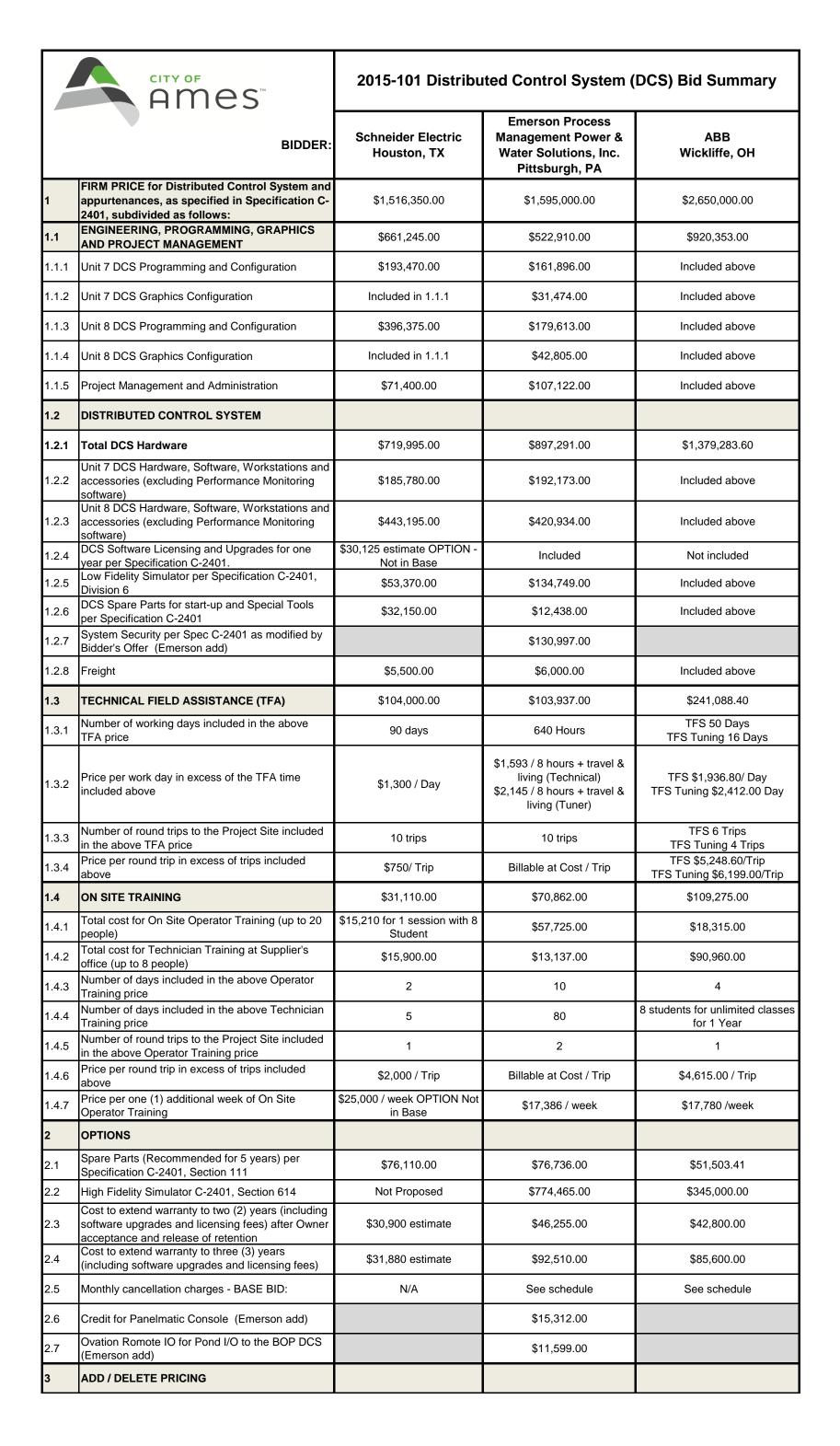
ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Accept the report of bids and delay award for the Distributed Control System.
- 2. Award a contract to the apparent low bidder.
- 3. Reject all bids and direct staff to rebid.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Power Plant's existing Distributed Control System is over 14 years old, and is no longer supported by the manufacturer. An up-to-date control system is needed for the safe and efficient operation of the plant into the future. By choosing alternative No. 1, staff will have adequate time to evaluate each bid and recommend an award that best meets the needs of the City.

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



3.76 / \$9,010.32
3.76 / \$9,010.32
3.19 / \$8,649.89
2.72 / \$10,667.04
0.50 / \$18,764.63
0.68 / \$2,007.26
0.67 / \$1,087.25
0.67 / \$1,822.25
.74 / \$1,313.81
N/A
0.08 / \$1,125.06
N/A
0.50 / \$18,764.63
0.33 / \$19,822.00
2.06 / \$19,006.54
3.73 / \$3,861.55
0.51 / \$1,950.38
See Above
5.54 / \$2,861.65