

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR VETERINARY MEDICINE (VET MED) SUBSTATION 15KV METALCLAD SWITCHGEAR

BACKGROUND:

The complete project is the expansion of the Vet Med Electrical Substation which is needed to accommodate Iowa State University's Veterinary Medicine Campus load additions, football stadium load additions, and Ames' load additions south of Highway 30 and along 16th Street in the vicinity of the Vet Med Substation. This project has been advanced to accommodate ISU's advanced schedule for the Vet Med Campus load additions. It has also increased in scope and cost to include an additional transformer to better accommodate Ames' and ISU's future needs for capacity and reliable service in this area.

This portion of the project is for the purchase of two outdoor 15kV metalclad switchgear assemblies. The Engineer's estimate of the cost of these switchgear assemblies is \$750,000. It is necessary to specify and order these switchgears ahead of the final design and construction bidding due to the long lead time for these critical pieces of equipment. There is a separate Council Action Form being presented to Council for the bidding of electrical materials on this agenda. Finally, the approval of construction plans and specifications will be presented to City Council on an agenda in the near future.

Upon City Council approval and receipt of favorable bids, the switchgear assemblies will be ordered. The switchgear will be delivered in the 2010/2011 fiscal year. It is anticipated the construction will begin during August 2010. It is the goal to have this entire project completed prior to May 11, 2011, which is just prior to the estimated completion of the Veterinary Medicine facility expansion.

The approved FY2010/11 CIP for Electric Services includes \$3,600,000 for engineering, materials and construction of this project with Iowa State University contributing an estimated \$1,489,727 to the cost of the project. To-date, the project budget has the following items encumbered or estimated (includes the pending transformer award of contract and the report of bids on the circuit breakers, also presented to Council on this meeting agenda):

1.	\$390,880.00	A cost-not-to-exceed for engineering services (contract with DGR)
2.	\$190,000.00	Estimated cost for four circuit breakers (report of bids and delay of award of contract is a separate item on this same Council meeting agenda)
3.	\$1,059,362.38	Actual cost for two transformers (pending Council award under a separate item on this same Council meeting agenda. This total includes the 7% sales tax to be paid directly to the State of Iowa by the city of Ames)
4.	\$197,000.00	Estimated cost for Electrical Materials (pending Council approval of plans and specifications under a separate item on this same Council meeting agenda)
5.	\$750,000.00	Estimated cost for two 15kV Metalclad Switchgear Assemblies- this item (pending Council approval of plans & specifications for this item)
6.	<u>\$ 1,012,757.62</u>	Construction, contingency and minor equipment estimate (to be on an agenda in the near future)
Total \$3,600,000		.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the plans and specifications for the Vet Med Substation 15Kv Metalclad Switchgear and set August 11, 2010, as the bid due date and August 24, 2010, as the date of hearing and award of contract.
2. Do not approve the plans and specifications at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This project is necessary to accommodate both City and Iowa State University load requirements in the Vet Med Substation area. The schedule for this project is crucial as a result of new electric load being installed in 2011. Iowa State University has ordered new chiller equipment for its Veterinary Medicine campus expansion which requires that the planned Vet Med Substation additions be in service no later than May 11, 2011. Existing transformer and feeder capacity at this substation is inadequate to support these new ISU load additions and Electric Services will be unable to meet the required in-service schedule if this transformer bid request is delayed.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 approving the plans and specifications for the Vet Med Substation Switchgear and establishing August 11, 2010, as the bid due date and August 24, 2010, as the date of hearing and award of contract.