

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **AMES POWER PLANT SWITCHYARD CONTROL PANELS**

BACKGROUND:

On August 13, 2013, City Council approved preliminary plans and specifications for controls panels and related accessories to be installed as part of the "Ames Plant Switchyard Relay & Controls Upgrade" project.

Bid documents for this project were issued to nine firms. 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 of these control panels was \$350,000.

On August 28, 2013, one bid was received as shown below:

Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc., Pullman, WA	\$198,469.55
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This bid was reviewed by Electric Services staff and an engineer from Dewild Grant Reckert & Associates (DGR) Company. This evaluation concluded that the bid submitted by Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc., Pullman, WA, is acceptable.

The approved FY2013/14 Capital Improvements Plan for Electric Services includes \$1,700,000 for engineering, materials and construction of this project with Iowa State University contributing an estimated \$319,600 to the cost. To date, the project budget has the following items encumbered:

\$1,700,000.00	Amount Budgeted for Project
\$122,700.00	Encumbered Engineering for Ames Plant Switchyard (Approved by City Council on April 24, 2012)
\$56,377.35	Actual cost for SF6 circuit breakers (Awarded by City Council on July 13, 2013)
\$122,868.40*	Actual cost for electrical materials (Awarded by City Council on July 23, 2013) *This amount includes applicable sales taxes to be paid directly by the City to the State of Iowa
\$570,000.00	Estimated cost for materials installation phase (Bids are due on September 11, 2013)

<u>\$198,469.55</u>	Actual cost for Control Panels for the Ames Plant Switchyard Project – (pending Council award for this agenda item)
\$1,070,415.30	Total estimated costs
\$629,584.70	Balance available to complete project (Relay and controls equipment and installation at other substations)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc., Pullman, WA, for the Ames Switchyard Control Panels in the amount of \$198,469.55 (inclusive of Iowa sales tax).
2. Reject all bids and delay the purchase of the control panels for this project.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This equipment is necessary to complete the project at the Ames Plant Switchyard. This project is necessary for Electric Services to continue providing safe, reliable, service to customers across the City.

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