

ITEM#: 14
DATE: 03-22-22

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: 2022 ELECTRIC RELIABILITY PLAN

BACKGROUND:

Electric Services manages its inspection and maintenance efforts under an adopted reliability plan that has been filed with the Iowa Utilities Board. Historically, such plans were prepared and approved at the City staff level.

The Iowa Utilities Board has recently adopted changes to its administrative code (IAC 199-27.10) and now requires each municipal electric utility to have its adopted reliability plan approved by their respective governing authority, prior to filing updates to its existing plans. Therefore, Electric Services is requesting Council to approve its adopted Reliability Plan to satisfy this IUB requirement.

Staff has prepared a Reliability Plan statement, using guides and reference material provided by the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (IAMU). The proposed Reliability Plan statement is attached for reference.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the adoption of the 2022 Electric Reliability Plan statement.
2. Do not approve the 2022 Electric Reliability Plan statement.
3. Request further information from staff.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Iowa Administrative Code now requires the approval of the Electric Utility's Electric Reliability Plan by the City Council. City staff has prepared this statement using reference materials supplied by IAMU to ensure compliance.

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



Wednesday, February 17, 2022

City of Ames Reliability Plan

The City of Ames strives to deliver safe, reliable and affordable power to its customers. While this reliability plan focuses on information pertinent to reliability, other considerations cannot be overlooked in balancing the needs of the customers with the business decisions of the system's managers. The purpose of this reliability plan is to meet the requirements of Iowa Administrative Code 199-27.10(3) (g). This reliability plan does not replace, but merely supplements, information provided to the utility's governing authority throughout the year. This plan has been signed off on by the governing authority of the City of Ames along with reliability data for the purpose of detailing the utility's progress in achieving certain strategic objectives as outlined in its strategic plan. This plan was prepared for the reporting period of January 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. During 2021, customers were able to contact the City of Ames 24 hours a day, 7 days a week through an after-hours telephone number. Customers were able to timely report service interruptions and other problems they experienced with electric service through clearly defined communication channels.

The City of Ames reliability plan represents an integrated approach addressing the operation, maintenance, and inspection of the electric system. Providing safe, reliable, and affordable electric service to meet the needs of customers requires an intricate balance and consideration of all the above as well as the resources available to achieve results. The City of Ames made reasonable efforts to avoid and prevent service interruptions during the last year. However, when interruptions occurred, service was reestablished within the shortest time practicable, consistent with safety.

The City of Ames has an effective preventive maintenance program and is capable of emergency repair work on an appropriate scale to its scope of operations and to the physical condition of its electric facilities. This program is included in our vegetation, substation, and visual inspection plans. To improve its effectiveness, these plans are reviewed yearly. Quality of work and final delivery by contractors are also assessed. The City of Ames continues to follow a written program for inspecting and maintaining its electric supply lines and substations in order to determine the necessity for replacement, maintenance and repair, and for tree pruning or other vegetation management. The City of Ames is currently following a schedule for this written program to assure the completion of all areas within a 36 months timeline.

The City of Ames assesses the status of its distribution line equipment including animal guarding and pole mounted power factor correction equipment. The City of Ames models and compares consumption metrics during peak load, non-peak load and warm and cold conditions to issue maintenance jobs based on these assessments and conditions. The City of Ames also installs lightning arresters at appropriate locations on distribution line equipment to reduce outages and protect equipment and inspects them annually using infrared and visual inspections.

The City of Ames has a program of complete pole inspection, with the complete system scheduled to be completed on a 10-year cycle including both overhead and groundline conditions. The program consists of a complete inspection of the poles over 10 years of age and a report on all rejected poles that are to be replaced. Poles are generally replaced within six months following inspection. Besides these two inspections, The City of Ames also conducts a Visual Inspection on all transmission poles every fiscal year.