



CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Specifications and Advertisement for Bids for Padmount Liquid Insulated Vacuum Switchgear
MEETING DATE: January 5, 2000
PREPARED BY: Electric Utility Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the City Council approve the specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for eleven units of Padmount Liquid Insulated Vacuum Switchgear.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Padmount Liquid Insulated Vacuum Switchgear (Pad Switch) is installed throughout the City's high voltage underground electric distribution system. The Pad Switches are located along the main underground feeders to provide sectionalizing points for trouble shooting as well as fuse protection for the branch feeders originating at the Pad Switches. The City has installed this type of equipment over the years from various manufacturers having various design concepts including air and oil insulated, expulsion and current limiting fusing, in oil, air or vacuum switching and mild and stainless steel cabinets. Experience has shown that vacuum switching in a liquid insulating medium with sectionalizing switches, current limiting fusing and stainless steel cabinets, as specified here, provides the most efficient, reliable and safest operating environment in addition to essentially being maintenance free equipment.

These switches will be utilized in developing areas on the west and south side of the City (3), for the Downtown distribution system reconstruction project (4), for replacement of existing equipment (3) and for inventory/backup (1). The replacement switches (3) are for the last part of a project initiated in the previous fiscal period to replace switches from one manufacturer that are failing and are unreliable. This manufacturer discontinued production of the switch six years ago and is no longer providing support and/or parts.

Bid Opening: Wednesday, January 26, 2000.

FUNDING: Included in the 1999-2000 Fiscal Year Financial Plan and Budget (Page E 25 and E26)
 Estimated Cost: \$230,000

Funding Approval: Vicky McAthee
 Vicky McAthee, Finance Director

Alan N. Vallow
 Alan N. Vallow
 Electric Utility Director

PREPARED BY: Hans Hansen, Manager, Engineering and Operations

c: City Attorney
 Purchasing Officer

APPROVED: H. Dixon Flynn
 H. Dixon Flynn - City Manager