CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2025-59

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEMS, INC. TO PROVIDE ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE SUBTRANSMISSION UPGRADES PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $131,762

WHEREAS, the City of Unalaska relies on a safe and reliable electrical distribution system to meet current and future demand; and

WHEREAS, Electrical Power Systems, Inc. (EPS) has provided engineering services to the City for over two decades, including the Electric Utility Master Plan (2018) and the Load Growth Study (2025); and

WHEREAS, the Electric Utility Master Plan and Load Growth Study both identified critical distribution system upgrades as a priority to maintain reliability, prepare for community growth, and support the integration of renewable energy resources; and

WHEREAS, EPS's extensive history with the City's electric utility provides a thorough understanding of existing infrastructure, system challenges, and long-term planning needs; and

WHEREAS, continuing with EPS ensures efficiency, consistency, and continuity in the planning and execution of the 35 kV distribution system upgrades; and

WHEREAS, EPS has proposed a budget of $131,726 to complete the work.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Unalaska City Council authorizes the City Manager to sole source Electric Power Systems, Inc. (EPS) to provide electrical engineering services for the Subtransmission Upgrades Project in an amount not to exceed $131,726.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on September 9, 2025.

Alejandro Tungul
Vice Mayor

ATTEST:

Marjie Veeder
Acting City Clerk

CITY OF UNALASKA CORPORATE SEAL STATE OF ALASKA

MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Erik Hernandez, Utilities Director
Through: William Homka, City Manager
Date: September 9, 2025
Re: Resolution 2025-59: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Electric Power Systems, Inc. to provide electrical engineering services for the Subtransmission Upgrades Project in an amount not to exceed $131,762

SUMMARY: Through Resolution 2025-59, Staff request approval for the City Manager to sole source Electric Power Systems, Inc. (EPS) for engineering services related to the 35 kV system upgrades.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: On January 28, 2025, the "Electric Division Overview" was presented to Council. That presentation outlined department planning, expansion, partnerships, utility status, and needed upgrades looking into the future. It also served as an opportunity to gather input on priorities for the electric utility. Through budgeting processes, Council reached a consensus that priority should be placed on the distribution system, as reflected in both the Master Plan and most recent Load Growth Study. This direction positions the utility to support future growth and provides a foundation for integration of renewable energy resources.

BACKGROUND: The City has partnered with EPS for over two decades for essential electrical engineering services. EPS has been awarded multiple projects through competitive request for qualifications selection, including the New Powerhouse Project, the Fourth Engine Project, the Alyeska Electrical Intertie Project, the Captain's Bay Electric Line Upgrade, and most recently the Electric Master Plan (2018) and Load Growth Study (2025). These efforts evaluated the utility and identified areas requiring upgrades to maintain reliability, meet current and projected demand, and support long-term planning.

DISCUSSION: EPS's prior work with the City has given them a detailed understanding of our electric utility, particularly the distribution system and its upgrade needs. Engaging a new consultant would require duplication of EPS's previous work, as a new firm would need to review, interpret, and validate all past studies and data before proceeding. This would create unnecessary costs, delays, and potential inconsistencies. By continuing with EPS, the City ensures continuity, efficiency, and consistency in planning and execution of the 35 kV upgrades.

The City Manager is requesting approval to enter into a contract with EPS not to exceed $131,762.

ALTERNATIVES: Council may choose to approve or disapprove this sole sourcing request.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: None, there are ample funds in project EL26D line item: Engineering and Architectural (Subtransmission Upgrades)

LEGAL: None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Resolution 2025-59.

PROPOSED MOTION: I move to adopt Resolution 2025-59.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: I support staff's recommendation.

ATTACHMENTS: EPS Proposal

March 26, 2025

City of Unalaska
1035 E. Broadway Avenue
P. O. Box 610
Unalaska, Alaska 99685

Attn: Eric Hernandez

Reference: Update 2021 - 35kV Plans
Estimate for Engineering Services

Due to projected load increases with Trident and other industrial customers, the 35kV distribution loop needs to be upgraded. The following is our scope of work to perform the 35kV Feeder Replacement per the 2018 Long Range Plan #D2.

1. Replace aged 35 kV distribution system and upgrade to higher ampacity construction. This includes all main backbone looped junctions, terminations, cable/conduit, and switches to satisfy N-1 planning and aging infrastructure issues to support increased 35 kV industrial demand increases recently and into the future. Submarine cable has been added to this design. Extend design and overall site plan to include cable replacements up Captains Bay Road to a logical point near Westward.
2. Keep the future Geothermal tie-in point, but remove all Geothermal references.
3. Meet with the City linemen on site to update staking sheets and as-builts.
4. Import the updated City GIS for our design update.
5. Add an estimate for the channel submarine cable replacement. Add fiber to the submarine cable replacement.
6. Update the staking sheets and the construction cost estimate.

We have incorporated the tasks as outlined in the 02/26/2025 "Feeder Replacement Scope of Work" from COU. Lettered items are from the COU SOW, numbered items are EPS clarifications inserted in the scope text.

Work Included:

<u>Task 1 – Assessment</u>

a. Review infrastructure audit data of existing feeders, vaults, sectionalizing gear, switches and conduits.
    1. Update EPS ArcGIS per update from the City.

2. Coordinate with City Electrical Department to determine the proposed cable size.

b. Conduct thorough site assessment of existing infrastructure including feeders, vaults, sectionalizing gear, switches and conduits.
    1. Site visit to meet with the City linemen to update staking sheets and as-builts as required.
c. Evaluate Unalaska South Channel Bridge spare conduit and vaults in use by GCI granted by City.
d. Evaluate potential for sectionalizing gear alternatives i.e. T-body networks.
e. Assess available City owned equipment for ability to complete project.
f. Survey necessary infrastructure for the design of feeder replacement.
g. Evaluate potential trenching in paved areas.

Task 2 – Design

a. Necessary conduit paths for circuit replacement
    i. For areas where new conduit in needed, provide plan.
        1. Add submarine cable crossing including submarine cable specifications.
        2. Add Captains Bay Road update to facilitate Trident Load.
b. Cable distances needed between structures
c. Necessary structures, i.e. sectionalizing gear, switches.
d. Installation details, including terminations, trenching, structure placement, beach landing vaults, and traffic protection.
e. For this design, the existing nomenclature will be required to carry over to the replacement infrastructure, with new infrastructure labeled “New”.
f. Contractor will provide plans in 3-Phased approach, and complete scope.
    1. Prepare plans, details, and staking sheets for City Review.
    2. One review meeting with the City.
    3. Revisions to drawings, staking sheets and assembly quantities as required.

Task 3 – Materials

a. Contractor will provide inventory list of materials needed for complete scope of project.
    i. Cable
    ii. Sectionalizing and/or Pad mounted gear
    iii. Conduit
    iv. Estimated length of new trench.
    v. Consumables; terminations, connectors and all accessories required.
b. Contractor will provide materials list per 3-phase approach, and complete scope.
c. Materials must include current-day costs.
    1. Update construction estimate.
    2. Material procurement assistance on a time and material basis.

Task 4 – Installation, Commissioning, QC

a. For this project, it is assumed the City will perform all installation and testing; final commissioning and quality checks will be performed by contractor/designer.
    1. Three three-day site visits to Unalaska have been included as part of this scope.

Task 5 - Final Documentation

a. Contractor will furnish final as-builts, test results, updated one-line diagrams.

Deliverables:

1. Construction and material list
2. Issued for Review: Plans, details, and staking sheets
3. Issued for Construction: Plans, details, and staking sheets

CLARIFICATIONS:

1. City of Unalaska will provide Updated ArcGIS for existing 35kV sub-transmission/distribution.
2. City of Unalaska has provided pictures of the inside of existing vaults and switch structures for Task 1.
3. The 35kV distribution upgrades will be in existing City of Unalaska easements. No Right-of-Way work is anticipated.

SCHEDULE:

Task 1 is anticipated to take approximately two months (including coordination with the City) to reach an Issue for Review (IFR) level of detail. Issued for construction (IFC) drawings are anticipated one month following City review.

COST ESTIMATE:

Based on the above scope of work, our budget is $131,762.

We propose to perform these services on a time and materials basis using our current year published fee schedule.

Please review the above scope and estimated cost; feel free to contact me with any questions.

ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEMS, INC.

Christopher T. Davis, P.E.

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