



Utility Commission Meeting Agenda

Thursday, May 22, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Call to Order

Roll Call

Notice of Open Meeting

Approval of Agenda

Public Comment

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of April 17, 2025 meeting minutes.
2. Approve Utility Departments Cash Disbursements Report and Accounts Payable Report

Consider and take action on 2025 Water Simplified Rate Case application.

3. Consider and take action on Task Order No. 2025-CU02 Water Plant 3 Preliminary Siting Study in the amount of \$32,761.
4. Consider and Take Action on Task Order No. 2025-CU03 for Water Plant 2 Reliability in the amount of \$68,650.
5. Consider and take action on quote from T & D Products to replace 4 bushings on substation 3 in the amount of \$19,944.
6. Consider and take action on 2025 Water Simplified Rate Case application.
7. Consider and take action on 2025 borrowing for Utilities.

Reports

8. Utilities Department Report
9. 2025 Typical Bill Comparison
10. Orientation to WPPI Invitation
11. May 2025 Live Lines

Adjourn

*A quorum of city committees and/or commissions may be present at this meeting. No action will be taken or considered by those committees and/or commissions.



Utility Commission Meeting - Amended Minutes

Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Columbus City Hall – 105 N. Dickason Boulevard

Call to Order

Michael Thom called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Joe Hammer, Molly Finkler, Michael Thom, Reagan Rule, Sandy Curtis, and Jack Sanderson

ABSENT

Brook Andler

Notice of Open Meeting

Approval of Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Finkler, seconded by Curtis.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Thom, Rule, Curtis, Sanderson

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Hammer, seconded by Finkler.

Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Thom, Rule, Sanderson, and Curtis

1. Approval of March 20, 2025 Utility Commission meeting minutes.
2. Approve Utilities Cash Disbursements Report and Accounts Payable Report

New Business

3. Presentation by Forster Electric on multi-year electric conversion project
Bruce Beth, Jacob Feltz, and Rick Wicklund of Forster Electric gave a presentation related to the multi-year electric conversion project.
4. Consider and take action on authorization to decommission substation 1.
A motion to decommission Substation 1 was made by Finkler and seconded by Sanderson.
Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Thom, Rule, Sanderson, and Curtis
5. Consider and take action to direct staff to acquire a metering cabinet and transformer.
A motion to acquire a metering cabinet and transformer at a cost not to exceed \$170,000 was made by Finkler, seconded by Curtis.
Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Thom, Rule, Sanderson, and Curtis
6. Consider and take action on authorization to enter into unit price contract with Forster Electrical Engineering.

A motion was made to enter into a unit price contract by Finkler, seconded by Hammer.
Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Thom, Rule, Sanderson, and Curtis

Reports

7. Update on softener project at Water Plant 1
8. April 2025 Live Lines

Adjourn

The motion to adjourn was made by Finkler and seconded by Curtis.
Voting Yea: Hammer, Finkler, Thom, Rule, Sanderson, and Curtis

*A quorum of city committees and/or commissions may be present at this meeting. No action will be taken or considered by those committees and/or commissions.

2025 AGENDA ITEM

Utility Commission Meeting Date: 5/22/2025

ITEM: Financial Reports

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

Included in the Financial Reports are the Treasurer's Report and the Cash Disbursements Report.

The Accounts Payable Report will be sent via email the Wednesday before the Commission meeting.

LIST ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

1. Treasurer's Report
2. The Cash Disbursements Report

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

1. Review and approve the Cash Disbursements Report and the Accounts Payable Report.

COLUMBUS UTILITIES
Cash Disbursement Report
April, 2025

Item #2.

DATE	CHECK NO	NAME	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
4/22/2025	24309	AC ENGINEERING CO	\$3,654.20	TESTING NEW AND EXITING CTS, BASLERS RELAYS, REWIRE TRANSFORMERS
4/22/2025	24310	ACE HARDWARE	\$364.01	SHIPPING WATER SAMPLES, SPRAY PAINT, RAGS, TOGGLE SWITCH, LAWN RAKE, GAS CAN GARDEN SPAYER
4/22/2025	24311	AMARIL UNIFORM COMPANY	\$78.60	GLOVES FOR THE CREW
4/22/2025	24312	AMBUSH PEST CONTROL	\$120.00	SUBSTATION RODENT CONTROL #4, ADMIN BLDG RODENT CONTROL
4/22/2025	24313	AMERICAN LEGION POST #62	\$1,152.00	CEMETERY FLAGS FOR WARRIORS' GRAVES
4/22/2025	24314	ANTHONY DERR	\$68.43	SHIPPING AND SUPPLIES
4/22/2025	24315	BAKER TILLY US, LLP	\$3,490.21	2025 AUDIT SERVICES
4/22/2025	24316	BARBARA DEBUSSEY	\$747.39	REFUND OVER PAID UTILITIES
4/22/2025	24317	BASSETT MECHANICAL	\$5,732.00	UH REPLACEMENT, MONTHLY MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT 2025 APRIL
4/22/2025	24318	CHEMTRADE CHEMICALS US	\$12,751.20	HYPER+ION 5800 BULK (40480)
4/22/2025	24319	CITY OF COLUMBUS	\$291,452.97	PILOT PAYMENT, SALARIES, PHONE REIMBURSEMENT, WI ENV IMPROVEMENET LOAN, RUEKERT & MIELKE INVOICES
4/22/2025	24320	CULLIGAN WATER CONDITIONING	\$66.00	PE-DI RENT APRIL, REGENERATION CHARGE
4/22/2025	24321	DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	\$100.00	MERLE NOREN ADVANCED WASTEWATER CERT APPLICATION
4/22/2025	24322	DIGGER HOTLINE, INC	\$23.80	LOCATING EXPENSES
4/22/2025	24323	DORNER	\$32,637.64	WATER PLANT #1 REPAIRS
4/22/2025	24324	DUFFY FLEET SERVICES	\$705.50	REPLACE WATER PUMP ON #22
4/22/2025	24325	FORSTER ELECTRICAL	\$15,227.97	DISTRIBUTION PLANNING & REGULATORY APPROVAL, SUB #3 HIGH SIDE PROTECTION DEVICE, SUBSTATION #2 AND CIRCUIT TIE UPGRADES, SCADA COMMUNICATION TROUBLESHOOTING
4/22/2025	24326	GRAINGER, INC	\$149.27	TUBE 28.7 MM DIA, 115.64MM H, PK500
4/22/2025	24327	HADY ELECTRIC, INC	\$500.00	TROUBLE CALL ON BLOWER #2 FORSLUDGE TANK
4/22/2025	24328	HAMMES FIRE & SAFETY	\$480.00	ANNUAL MONITORING (12)
4/22/2025	24329	HAWKINS, INC	\$2,718.28	WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT CHEMICALS,
4/22/2025	24330	HYDROCORP, INC	\$980.00	CROSS CNNECTION CONTRL PROGRAM
4/22/2025	24331	ICS MEDICAL ANSWERING SERVICE	\$184.90	PHONE ANSWERING SERVICE
4/22/2025	24332	INFOSEND, INC	\$1,797.41	UTILITY BILL PRINTING AND MAILING, INLINE INSERT
4/22/2025	24333	LANGE ENTERPRISES, INC	\$1,082.84	ROAD SIGNS
4/22/2025	24334	MASON MOSHER	\$411.92	MASON APPRENTICESHIP
4/22/2025	24335	MERLE NOREN	\$63.27	CLOTHES REIMBURSEMENT
4/22/2025	24336	MID-STATE EQUIPMENT	\$3,553.98	65 CHAIN, BOBCAT S66 CAB/HEAT/AIR SJC
4/22/2025	24337	MIDWEST SALT	\$3,468.96	BULK SALT
4/22/2025	24338	NAPA AUTO PARTS	\$599.98	BATTERIES, 3 SUPER HC IND V-BELT
4/22/2025	24339	NATIONAL FIRE SAFETY COUNCIL	\$210.00	FIRE SAFETY ED MATERIALS
4/22/2025	24340	NCL OF WISCONSIN, INC	\$146.46	CS, PB-703, PHOSPHATE STANDARD
4/22/2025	24341	NORTHERN LAKE SERVICES	\$824.87	MONTHLY CHOLORIDE
4/22/2025	24342	OPENPOINT	\$1,250.00	MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION
4/22/2025	24343	OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE, INC	\$502.14	BATTERY (2) TRUCK #28, CORE RETURN TRUCK #28
4/22/2025	24344	PACKERLAND RENT-A-MAT, INC	\$144.71	URINAL REFLLS, MATS
4/22/2025	24345	RHYME BUSINESS PRODUCTS	\$702.78	PRINTER AGREEMENT
4/22/2025	24346	RUEKERT & MIELKE, INC	\$32,094.49	GENERAL SERVICES, SERWER UTILITY SERVICES, 2025 SCADA SERVICES, WWTF BIOSOLIDS DRY STUDY, SEWER TUILITY SERVICES, WATER QUALITY TRADING ASSISTANCE
4/22/2025	24347	SAVECO NORTH AMERICA INC	\$563.69	BAG LONGO PAC 90M LONG (2)
4/22/2025	24348	SWANSONFLO	\$14,759.30	METER 6 BADGER TURBO
4/22/2025	24349	USA BLUEBOOK	\$72.66	YELLOW/GREEN TABLETS USA BLUEBOOK
4/22/2025	24350	USIC LOCATING SERVICES	\$784.94	LOCATING EXPENSES
4/22/2025	24351	VC3, INC	\$266.50	NETWORK SECURITY/FIRWALL/LLC/SUB
4/22/2025	24352	WI STATE LABORATORY OF HYGENE	\$31.00	MONTHLY FLUORDIE TEST
4/22/2025	24353	WILLIAM/REID LTD LLC	\$1,139.36	SPARE PARTS KIT (5)
		SUBTOTAL	\$437,855.63	Accounts Payable List Approved at April Meeting
	ACH	Farmers & Merchants Union Bank	\$15.00	NSF Fees
4/18/2024	ACH-4180	Brook Andler	\$50.00	Commission Fees
4/18/2024	ACH-4181	Jack Sanderson	\$50.00	Commission Fees
4/18/2024	ACH-4182	MICHAEL THOM	\$50.00	Commission Fees
4/18/2024	ACH-4183	REGAN RULE	\$50.00	Commission Fees
4/18/2024	ACH-4184	SANDRA CURTIS	\$50.00	Commission Fees
4/4/2025	ACH-4186	BP	\$1,260.90	Fuel
4/3/2025	ACH-4191	Payment Service Network	\$3,230.15	Customer Payment Fee
4/10/2024	ACH-4192	US Cellular	\$33.42	Cell Phone Charges
4/21/2025	ACH-4187	Charter Communications	\$100.00	Internet Admin Building
4/17/2025	ACH-4189	Elan Financial Services	\$4,999.88	LODING FOR THE RURAL WATER CONFERENCE, WWOA CONFERENCES, TRAINING AND APPRENTICESHIP, TRAIL CAMERAS, EMAIL, TONER, BINDERS, TAPE, EYE WASH STATION
4/16/2025	ACH-4203	We Energies	\$25.21	Natural gas service water plant #2
4/20/2025	ACH-4197	Charter Communications	\$119.99	Internet Electric Scada
4/20/2025	ACH-4188	Cintas First Aid & Safety	\$62.54	First Aid Supplies
4/16/2025	ACH-4204	We Energies	\$969.00	Natural gas service Admin building
4/10/2025	ACH-4194	WI Department of Revenue	\$8,037.39	Sales and Use tax
4/17/2025	ACH-4199	Charter Communications	\$130.00	Wastewater Spectrum internet
4/16/2025	ACH-4193	We Energies	\$14.22	Wastewater Pump Station

4/28/2025	ACH-4195	WPPI Energy	\$468,770.64	Shared meter tech, WAN, Assessment, syber security, electric MDM Charges, water MDM charges, Northstar, AMI Implementation, & Northstar MDM interface, residentail AMI mettering project, purchased power
4/16/2025	ACH-4202	We Energies	\$1,027.27	TREATMENT PLANT
4/16/2025	ACH-4200	We Energies	\$16.19	Westside Sewage Lift
4/16/2025	ACH-4198	We Energies	\$17.31	119 MIDDLETON ST LIFT STATION
4/17/2025	ACH-4201	We Energies	\$18.26	WATERLOO LIFT STATION
4/17/2025	ACH-4190	Kwik Trip	\$179.62	Fuel
4/17/2025	ACH-4196	Seera	\$1,864.65	Focus on Energy
4/4/2025	ACH	CWL Net Payroll	\$35,106.79	Net Payroll for 1st Payroll in April #7
4/4/2025	ACH -4165	EFTPS	\$12,504.08	FICA/MED/FED Withholding Payroll #7
4/4/2025	ACH -4167	WI Deferred Comp Board	\$1,861.27	Payroll Deferral Billing for Payroll #7
4/4/2025	ACH-4166	NORTH SHORE DEFERRED COMP	\$300.00	PAYROLL DEFERRAL BILLY #7
4/4/2025	ACH -4168	Wisconsin Department of Revenue	\$1,941.55	State Withholding Payroll #7
4/11/2024	ACH	Investment Pool	\$30,000.00	March Bond Interest Payment
4/11/2024	ACH	Investment Pool	\$5,000.00	March Depreciation Payment
4/11/2024	ACH	Investment Pool	\$15,500.00	Transfer into LGIP #13 General Fund
4/24/2024	ACH	Farmers & Merchant Union Bank	\$6,172.30	E3P Enhanced Energy Transfer
4/18/2025	ACH	CWL Net Payroll	\$34,983.39	Net Payroll for 2nd Payroll in April #8
4/18/2025	ACH -4171	City of Columbus - Life	\$348.52	Life Insurance for Employees - April
4/18/2025	ACH-4169	City of Columbus - Retirement	\$14,698.74	Retirement for Employees - April
4/18/2025	ACH -4170	City of Columbus - Health Insurance	\$19,308.06	Dean Care Health Insurance for Employees - April
4/18/2025	ACH -4172	City of Columbus - Dental Insurance	\$1,231.52	Dental Insurance for Employees - April
4/18/2025	ACH -4173	City of Columbus - Vision Insurance	\$151.20	Vision Insurance for Employees- April
4/18/2025	ACH -4174	City of Columbus - Health Savings Account	\$2,162.00	Health Savings Account Transfer for Employees - April
4/18/2025	ACH-4175	City of Columbus - LTD	\$343.10	LTD NON CASH TRANSFER TO THE CITY
4/18/2025	ACH -4176	EFTPS	\$12,676.24	FICA/MED/FED Withholding Payroll #8
4/18/2025	ACH -4178	WI Deferred Comp Board	\$1,710.82	Payroll Deferral Billing for Payroll #8
4/18/2025	ACH-4177	NORTH SHORE DEFERRED COMP	\$300.00	Payroll Deferral Billing for Payroll #8
4/18/2025	ACH -4179	Wisconsin Department of Revenue	\$1,926.32	State Withholding Payroll #8
4/30/2025	ACH-4185	American Transmission Co	\$12,206.00	ADDITIONAL CAPITAL CONTRIUBTIONS
	ACH	Farmers & Merchants Union Bank	\$205.50	ACH /WIRE Fees
		SUBTOTAL	\$701,779.04	
		Total	\$1,139,634.67	

CITY OF COLUMBUS - COLUMBUS UTILITIES

TREASURER'S REPORT - APRIL 2025

Item #2.

GENERAL FUND (commingled cash) - ACCOUNT #1310

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ (859,826.63)
Receipts:	\$ 2,342,454.44
Interest Earned:	\$ 132.50
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 1,482,760.31</i>
Disbursements:	\$ (1,319,634.67)
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 163,125.64

NOTE: Conventional utility accounting standards recommend a balance equal to two month's expenses - approx. \$1,400,000 (LGIP & Checking).

UTILITY GENERAL FUND - LGIP #13 - ACCOUNT #1314

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 459,682.32
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ 1,612.65
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 461,294.97</i>
Disbursements:	\$ (47,396.94)
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 413,898.03

MRB PRINCIPAL & INTEREST - LGIP #5 - ACCOUNT #1255

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 167,587.15
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ 604.55
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 168,191.70</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 168,191.70

NOTE: Transfers are made monthly to accrue sufficient funds to make May 1 and November 1 principal & interest payments.

CW&L RESERVE FUND - F&M - ACCOUNT #1251

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 340,422.56
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ -
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 340,422.56</i>
Withdrawal from CDAR :	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 340,422.56

F&M Bank/CDAR 52 Week Certificate of Deposit:

\$170,211.28 Due June 2025 4.75%; \$170,211.28 Due December 2025 4.75%

E-3-P ENHANCED ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM - F&M - ACCOUNT #1313

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 126,967.82
Receipts:	\$ 6,172.30
Interest Earned (pd semi-annually May/Nov) :	\$ -
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 133,140.12</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 133,140.12

CW&L DEPRECIATION - LGIP #6 - ACCOUNT #1266

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 525,581.03
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ 1,895.96
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 527,476.99</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 527,476.99

NOTE: Bond covenants require a "depreciation fund" with recommended balance of \$300,000 to cover plant renewals and replacements.

SEWER UTILITY - LGIP #4 - SEWER UTILITY GENERAL FUNDS

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 200,664.21
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ 555.53
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 201,219.74</i>
Disbursements:	\$ (200,000.00)
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 1,219.74

SEWER UTILITY - LGIP #11 - COLLECTION MAIN - REPLACEMENT

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$1,037,738.89
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$3,743.51
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 1,041,482.40</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 1,041,482.40

WWTP REPLACEMENT FUNDS - LGIP #9

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 156,831.95
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ 565.75
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 157,397.70</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 157,397.70

SEWER UTILITY - LGIP #8 - BOND REDEMPTION/RESERVE

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 487,341.12
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ 1,758.02
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 489,099.14</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 489,099.14

SEWER UTILITY - F&M SAVINGS - BOND REDEMPTION/RESERVE

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 234,530.77
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned (pd semi-annually May/Nov) :	\$ -
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 234,530.77</i>
Disbursements:	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 234,530.77

WWTP FALL RIVER RESTRICTED REPLACEMENT FUNDS - F&M CDARS

CASH ON HAND - BEGINNING OF MONTH:	\$ 1,065,564.23
Receipts:	\$ -
Interest Earned:	\$ -
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>\$ 1,065,564.23</i>
Withdrawal from CDAR :	\$ -
Cash on Hand - Month End:	\$ 1,065,564.23

F&M Bank/CDAR (2) - Interest paid out and deposited to Checking

Local Gov't. Investment Pool	4.39%	F&M Union Bank-Checking/Savings	0.5% / 0.75%
Farmers & Merchants Bank - CDARS	4.35% to 4.65%		

TASK ORDER

Item #3.

This is Task Order No. 2025-CU02,
consisting of 5 pages
Water Plant 3 Preliminary Siting Study

Task Order

In accordance with Paragraph 1.1 of the Master Professional Service Agreement between Columbus Utilities (CU) and Ruekert & Mielke, Inc. (R/M) for Professional Services – Task Order Edition, dated March 20, 2019 ("Agreement"), CU and R/M agree as follows:

1. Specific Project Data

A. Background

Background – Water Plant 1 was constructed in the early 1900s, with upgrades in the 1940s and 1960s. The plant consists of a building enclosing one well, pumps, piping and valves, chemical treatment, iron removal equipment, softening equipment, and an above grade reservoir. A second well is on the site of Water Plant 1 approximately 100 feet northwest of the main building. This facility is in need of upgrades in the near future for safety, reliability and to meet regulatory requirements. In 2016, the Utility conducted a study to identify the cost to replace Water Plant 1 with a new facility and new well. In 2023, the Utility conducted another study to update the new plant and well cost and to determine a cost to upgrade Water Plant 1 to bring it up to current standards for its water treatment process. Some of the upgrade items were: new electrical distribution, updated plumbing and HVAC, a new standby generator, a new roof, a new configuration of separate chemical rooms, new process equipment media for the iron filter and softeners, painting, and replacement of the valves. The memorandum from the 2023 study is attached to the Task Order for reference.

The plant upgrade cost estimate of \$2.96M is less than a new plant cost estimate of \$8.13M. However, the upgrade cost does not include the required building improvements to meet current energy conservation requirements as this cost was very hard to quantify accurately. There are inherent inefficiencies to the existing layout of Water Plant 1. Considering these items, the Utility is interested in investigating and identifying sites that are suitable to construct a new Water Plant and well. It is anticipated that the new well would have equivalent capacity to the two existing wells at the Water Plant 1 location of approximately 1,000 gallons per minute, or similar to the capacity of well 4 at Water Plant 2, approximately 850 gpm. It is reasonable to assume the new well at Water Plant 1 would have an output capacity between 850 to 1,000 gpm.

B. Task Order

The first step in this process is to conduct a preliminary study for siting the new water plant and well. This Task Order is for a siting study to find one or two suitable locations for the new water plant taking into account space requirements and setback requirements mandated by Wisconsin Administrative Code. It is anticipated the new well will be located inside the new Water Plant 3 replacing Water Plant 1. Once the preferred site is chosen, the Utility will have to complete and receive approval of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) required Well Site Investigation report. We advise the Utility to have WDNR and Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) approvals of the well before the closing on the land purchase. Approvals for the building with process equipment will follow when those designs are complete. The building and process equipment for Water Plant 3 is not included in this Task Order. That will be a future Task Order.

2. Scope of Services for R/M

A. The Scope of Services are as follows:

- 1) Coordinate, plan and attend project kick off meeting with stakeholders. Issue meeting notes.
- 2) Conduct investigations of potential well sites in City based on known hydrogeologic conditions in City, property types, land ownership, land use, required setbacks, environmental factors, and access. Identify four preliminary sites.
- 3) Provide environmental screening services for up to four preliminary sites.
- 4) Analyze sites and provide advantages and disadvantages for each site. Provide preliminary technical memorandum to Utility.

- 5) Meet with Utility to discuss sites. With the Utility, rank the sites based on advantages and disadvantages, operation and cost impacts.
- 6) Conduct water modeling with plant at the top two selected locations to confirm size of needed infrastructure, system operation, and cost impacts.
- 7) Evaluate the need for an elevated storage tank at the top two selected locations vs. another location.
- 8) Prepare exhibit at up to two locations with setbacks, ingress, egress, building, potential reservoir and potential elevated storage tank.
- 9) Meet with the Utility to decide on most preferred site.
- 10) Write final technical memorandum outlining screening analysis and advantages and disadvantages.
- 11) Provide project coordination.

3. Columbus Utilities Responsibilities

The CU shall have those responsibilities as set forth in Section II of the Agreement, subject to the following:

- A. Answer site/location questions.
- B. Attend study review meetings.
- C. Provide study comments.

4. Items Excluded

The following items are excluded from the Scope of Services:

- A. Anything not specifically identified in the Scope of Services above.
- B. Easement research.
- C. Land acquisition services.
- D. Property surveys.
- E. Floodplain, wetland, or other environmental permitting.
- F. Change of conditions from information known at time of this Task Order.
- G. WDNR Well Site Investigation Report (to be done in a subsequent phase).
- H. Public Service Commission approval (to be done in a subsequent phase).
- I. Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources approval for well design (to be done in a subsequent phase).
- J. Well or plant design services (to be done in a subsequent phase).

5. Future Work Items

The preliminary siting study is the first step in the process of a new water plant. The future steps will include:

1. Prepare and submit WDNR Well Site Inventory Report. Achieve approval.
2. Prepare PSC Threatened and Endangered Species survey.
3. Prepare PSC submittal application including environmental information, alternatives, justification and cost estimates.
4. Develop responses to PSC questions regarding alternative ways to eliminate or postpone need for well. Receive PSC approval.
5. Finalize land purchase for site of Water Plant 3.
6. Prepare well design plans and specifications. Prepare WDNR forms and cover letter.
7. Address WDNR and PSC questions and concerns about the proposed well design.
8. Conduct public bidding for well.
9. Construct well.
10. Conduct well testing and commissioning.

TASK ORDER

Item #3.

11. Prepare Water Plant 3 design and specifications. Submit to WDNR and PSC and achieve approval.
12. Conduct public bidding.
13. Construct Water Plant 3.

6. Times for Rendering Services

Schedules are subject to change due to activities beyond the control of R/M. In general, the tentative schedule is as follows:

- A. Start project– May 16, 2025.
- B. Provide preliminary technical memorandum to Utility – July 16, 2025.
- C. Identify ranking order of three sites – July 31, 2025.
- D. Write final technical memorandum outlining screening analysis and advantages and disadvantages – August 29, 2025.

7. Payments to R/M

- A. The CU shall pay R/M for services rendered on a Time and Material Basis as follows:

Category of Services	Estimate of Compensation for Services
Completion of study services (scope items 1-11)	\$32,761
TOTAL =	\$32,761

- B. July 10, 2023 Memo to Michelle Kaltenberg, Water Plant 1 Reconditioning / Replacement Assessment as Exhibit A.

8. Subconsultants

- A. R/M proposes to use a subconsultant, LRE Water, for hydrogeology services for preliminary screening.

TASK ORDER

Item #3.

TASK ORDER NO. 2025-CU02
WATER PLANT 3 PRELIMINARY SITING STUDY
Between Columbus Utilities
and
Ruekert & Mielke, Inc.
Dated May 6, 2025

Terms and Conditions: Execution of this Task Order by Columbus Utilities and R/M shall make it subject to the terms and conditions of the agreement (as modified above), which Agreement is incorporated by this reference. R/M is authorized to begin performance upon its receipt of a copy of this Task Order signed by Columbus Utilities.

The Effective Date of this Task Order is _____, 2025.

OWNER:

Columbus Utilities

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

ENGINEER:

Ruekert & Mielke, Inc.

Signature: Jason P. Lietha
Digitally signed by Jason P. Lietha
Date: 2025.05.06 11:20:37 -05'00'

Name: Jason P. Lietha, P.E.

Title: Senior Vice President

Date: May 6, 2025

DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE FOR TASK ORDER

Name: _____

Title: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Name: David W. Arnott, P.E.

Title: Team Leader/Senior Project Manager

Address: W233 N2080 Ridgeview Parkway
Waukesha, WI 53188

Email: darnott@ruekert-mielke.com

Phone: 262-953-3080

This is Task Order No. 2025-CU03,
consisting of 4 pages.
Columbus Utilities
*Water Plant 2 Reliability
Improvements*

Task Order

In accordance with Paragraph 1.1 of the Master Professional Service Agreement between the Columbus Utilities (Utilities) and Ruekert & Mielke, Inc. (R/M) for Professional Services – Task Order Edition, dated March 19, 2019 ("Agreement"), City and R/M agree as follows:

1. Specific Project Data

The purpose of this project is to improve the reliability of Water Plant 2 by reconditioning the existing softeners, replacement of the existing motor control center, and installing automatic controls for the existing horizontal pressure filter. Softener reconditioning will include replacement of the ion exchange resin, replacement of the exiting butterfly valves, replacement of the inlet and brine distributors, and repainting the interior of the softeners. An evaluation of replacing the existing underdrain with a pipe and concrete underdrain will be performed.

The existing motor control center is over 30 years old and has experienced some component failures. The motor control center will be replaced to improve reliability.

The existing iron removal horizontal pressure filter is manually controlled for normal filtration service and backwashing operations. A control panel, solenoid panel, and new butterfly control valves to replace the existing manually operated control valves will be included to provide automatic control of the pressure filter.

2. Scope of Services for R/M

- A. Meet with Utility staff to confirm project approach and design requirements.
- B. Conduct site visit to obtain detailed information from existing equipment to be reconditioned, modified or replaced.
- C. Perform preliminary environmental screening.
- D. Prepare preliminary design to confirm sizing of equipment components.
- E. Prepare drawings for existing site plan, building, softeners, filter, and associated piping for preliminary design and prepare demolition drawings.
- F. Prepare layout drawing of existing motor control center and existing SCADA panel to identify existing space requirement. Prepare existing one-line diagram for preliminary design.
- G. Coordinate with equipment suppliers obtain recommendations and product data compatible with the existing equipment.
- H. Prepare intermediate and final design for softener reconditioning, filter automatic controls for filter, and motor control center replacement.
- I. Perform intermediate and final drafting for softener reconditioning, filter automatic controls and motor control center replacement.
- J. Prepare technical specifications.
- K. Review project drawings and specifications with Utility at 60% and 90% completion. Incorporate comments from Utility.

- L. Develop Engineers Opinion of Probable Construction Cost.
- M. Prepare design report, complete WDNR forms, and submit project approval package to WDNR. Respond to questions and address comments from WDNR.
- N. Prepare application for Construction Authorization from the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC). Perform environmental screening of project. Develop alternatives and analyze alternatives for application. Respond to questions and address comments from the PSC.
- O. Prepare legal and procedural documents for Project Manual including agreement, insurance requirements, and bidding requirements. Project Manual will be in the format of Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee.
- P. Conduct QA/QC project review.
- Q. Make final design revisions based upon comments from WDNR, PSC and QA/QC project review.
- R. Assemble drawings and Project Manual for public bidding. Upload to Quest.
- S. Answer bidder questions.
- T. Issue addenda as needed.
- U. Attend bid opening.
- V. Review bids for accuracy.
- W. Prepare Letter of Recommendation and Notice of Award.

3. **Utility's Responsibilities**

The Utility shall have those responsibilities as set forth in Section II of the Agreement, subject to the following:

- A. Provide response to Engineer's inquiries during design.
- B. Attend design review meetings.
- C. Provide comments during design review meetings.
- D. Attend Bid Opening.

4. **Items Excluded**

The following items are excluded from the Scope of Services.

- A. Anything not specifically identified in the Scope of Services above.
- B. Permit Fees.
- C. Additional meetings not listed in scope.
- D. Redesign or addition of services.
- E. Any PSC coordination time beyond the estimate 54 hours of effort included in this task order.
- F. Change of conditions from information known at time of this Task Order.

- G. Contract execution with the low bidder (to be authorized in a future Task Order).
- H. Construction related services (Construction Administration and Construction Review to be authorized in a future Task Order).

5. **Times for Rendering Services**

Schedules are subject to change due to activities beyond the control of R/M. In general, the tentative schedule is as follows:

- A. Begin Design – May 16, 2025
- B. Receive WDNR Approval of Project - December 31, 2025
- C. Receive PSC Construction Authorization - December 31, 2025
- D. Complete public bidding – January 31, 2026

6. **Payments to R/M**

- A. Utility shall pay R/M for services rendered as follows:

Category of Services	Compensation Method	Estimate of Compensation for Services
Completion of Design and Bidding Services	Hourly	\$68,650
TOTAL		\$68,650

- B. The terms of payment are set forth in Section III and Exhibit A of the Agreement.

TASK ORDER

Item #4.

TASK ORDER NO. 2025-CU03 WATER PLANT 2 RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENTS Between Columbus Utilities and Ruekert & Mielke, Inc. Dated May 15, 2025

Terms and Conditions: Execution of this Task Order by Utility and R/M shall make it subject to the terms and conditions of the agreement (as modified above), which Agreement is incorporated by this reference. R/M is authorized to begin performance upon its receipt of a copy of this Task Order signed by Utility.

The Effective Date of this Task Order is May 15, 2025.

OWNER:

ENGINEER:

Columbus Utilities

Ruekert & Mielke, Inc.

Signature: _____

Signature: Jason P. Lietha Digitally signed by Jason P. Lietha
Date: 2025.05.06 11:22:03 -05'00'

Name: _____

Name: Jason P. Lietha, P.E.

Title: _____

Title: Senior Vice President

Date: _____

Date: May 6, 2025

DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE FOR TASK ORDER

Name: _____

Name: Donald J. Heikkila, P.E.

Title: _____

Title: Project Manager

Address: _____

Address: 1400 Lombardi Ave. Suite 101S

Green Bay, WI 54304

Email: _____

Email: dheikkila@ruekert-mielke.com

Phone: _____

Phone: 920-486-6624

T&D Products

Manufactures' Representatives - Transmission & Distribution Electrical Equipment

QUOTATION

T&D Products Inc. 4200 Cantera Drive Ste. 216 Warrenville, IL 60555		DATE TOTAL PGS	April 25, 2025 3 Pages
To: Jason Lemke AC Engineering		TEL EMAIL	262 547-2006 Jason@acengineer.com
From: Sean Gallagher T&D Products, Inc.		TEL EMAIL	630 791-9260 sgallagher@tdproducts.com
Quote	QT-25-01044458		

WE ARE PLEASED TO QUOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Item	Part number	Description	Outline drawing	Quantity	Net price each	Lead time EXW (ARO)
1	015B0120AQ	LCRJ - 15.0 kV bushing	T015B0120AQ	4	\$ 4,986.00	24 - 26 weeks

Item 1 details

Bushing style	015B0120AQ
Bushing outline drawing	T015B0120AQ
Bushing type	LCRJ
System voltage (kV)	15.0
BIL (kV)	110
Rated current (A)	Transformer 1200
Creep (in)	11.66
CT space (in)	Transformer 21.00
Color	Gray
Maximum altitude (ft)	10000.00
Mounting (from vertical)	0-20°
Product Code CID	9AAC30400022
Factory BALID	9AAE328396

Please see outline drawing for further details

Item Comments

Item 1 • The replacement for B3C012DY4A is 015B0120AQ.

General Terms and Conditions of Sale

This quotation is effective for 30 days from April 25, 2025, unless otherwise authorized by Hitachi Energy.

Unless stated otherwise in this quotation, the following terms and conditions of sale will apply.

1. Shipment is CPT - Carriage paid to First US Destination.
2. Payment terms: due in 30 days invoice date.
3. Terms and conditions of sale are based upon Hitachi Energy USA Inc. General Terms and Conditions.
4. Prices are net each in US dollars.
5. Lead times are quoted as ship dates from the factory beginning after the receipt of an order (ARO).
6. Quoted lead times are based on current production levels. Actual lead times are dependent on available production space at time of order entry.
7. "Force Majeure. Hitachi Energy shall neither be liable for loss, damage, detention or delay nor be deemed to be in default for failure to perform when prevented from doing so by causes beyond its reasonable control including, but not limited to, acts of war (declared or undeclared), Acts of God, fire, strike, labor difficulties, acts or omissions of any governmental authority, compliance with government regulations, insurrection or riot, epidemic, pandemic (including coronavirus (COVID-19)), embargo, delays or shortages in transportation or inability to obtain necessary labor, materials, or manufacturing facilities from usual sources or from defects or delays in the performance of its suppliers or subcontractors due to any of the foregoing enumerated causes. In the event of delay due to any such cause, the date of delivery will be extended by period equal to the delay plus a reasonable time to resume production.
8. Change in Laws. Hitachi Energy shall comply with all federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances, statutes, orders, codes and practices ("Applicable Laws"). If there is a change in any of the Applicable Laws after a purchase order is issued, Hitachi Energy shall notify Customer, and the parties agree to meet in good faith to discuss such change. The price and time to perform the work, shall be increased or decreased, based on the change and consistent with the time and price to perform the original scope of work. For purposes of this provision, "Change in Law" means any change in any Applicable Laws or Applicable Codes and Standards as in effect on the Effective Date, including the enactment, adoption, promulgation, implementation of laws passed but not yet effective or imposition of any new Applicable Laws with substantively different terms, or change in the application or in the interpretation by any governmental authority of any Applicable Laws after the Effective Date. Any tariffs/custom duties, import/export restrictions or embargoes that may result from any executive orders, proclamations or other Applicable Laws that have been or will be issued after January 20th, 2025 shall be considered a 'Change in Law' event and entitle Hitachi Energy to equitable adjustment of cost and price and extension of time of performance.

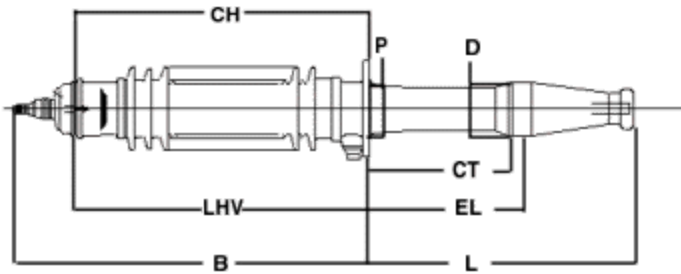
Thank you for the inquiry. Should this quotation result in an order, please address PO to:
Hitachi Energy USA Inc.
c/o T&D Products, Inc.
901 Main Campus Dr.
Raleigh, NC 27606
P) 630 791-9260
Email: sales@tdproducts.com

T&D Products, Inc. is an independent sales representative. All sales are subject to acceptance by the manufacturers General Terms and Conditions of Sale, which T&D Products, Inc. does not have the authority to alter.

NOTICE-- This document may contain confidential and privileged information for the sole use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient you may not review, copy or distribute this message. Any review or distribution by others is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender immediately and delete all copies. Actual prices, product configurations and product availability will be subject to confirmation by your Hitachi Energy Sales Representative at the time the order is placed. List prices may be changed at any time in the event of raw material increases. All clerical, typographical and mathematical errors are subject to correction

Bushing Cross Reference Information

Item #5.



Original Bushing Information

Original Bushing Manufacturer: WEST Mounting Position: Vertical
 Catalog Number: B3C012DY4A
 Voltage Class (kV): 15 BIL (kV): 110
 Application DrawLead Bottom Connected Oil Circuit Breaker
 Current Rating (Amps) 1200
 015B0120AQ (Amps) 1200
 General Comments:

Replacement Information

ABB Style Number: [015B0120AQ](#)

Review dimensional differences verifying critical dimensions to meet application requirements.

Notes/Comments:

Catalog Number	BIL	EL	CT	L	B	D	Bolt Circle	No. Of Holes	Hole Dia. (inches)	Creep
B3C012DY4A	110kV	21 in.	21 in.	27.5 in.	11.94 in.	2.958 in.	6 in.	4	.625 in.	11.4 in.
015B0120AQ	110kV	21 in.	21 in.	27.511 in.	11.927 in.	3.026 in.	6 in.	4	0.625 in.	11.66 in.

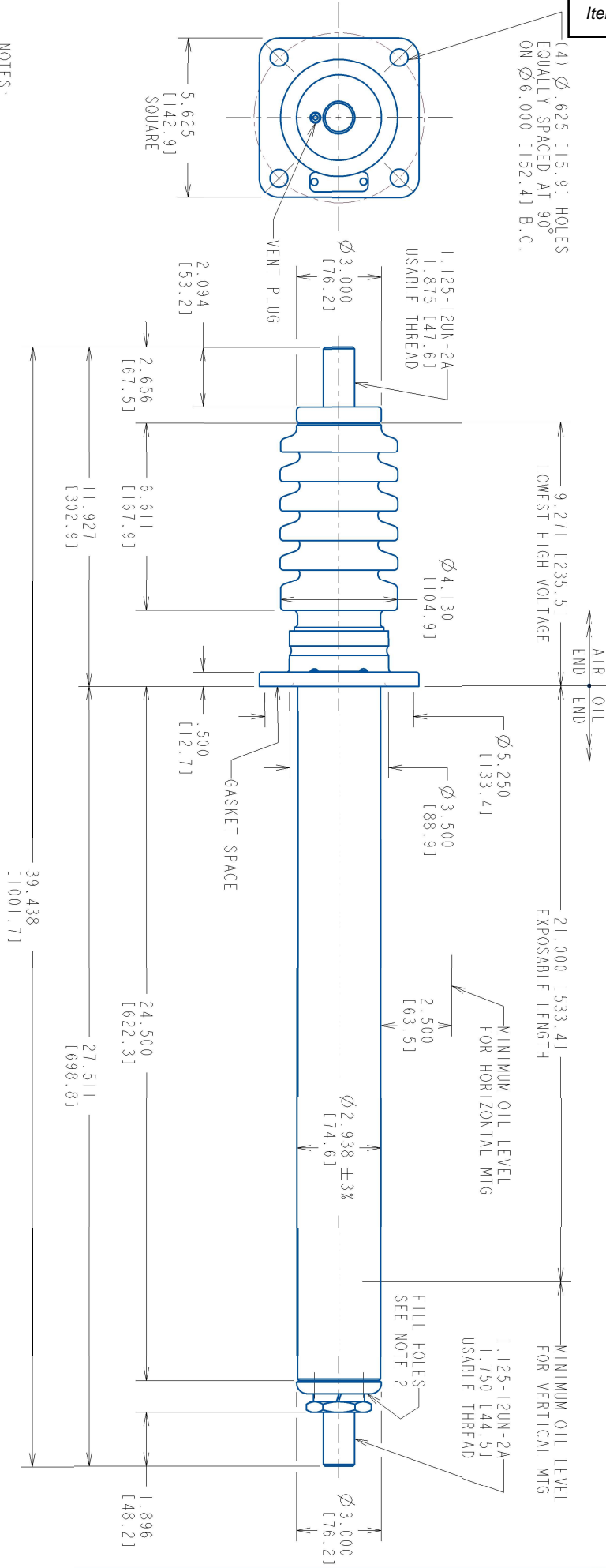
Catalog Number	Strike	P Dia.	Cable Height/Pin Height for AB Bushing - CH	LHV	Top Terminal Threads (inches)	Bottom Terminal Thread/Configuration
B3C012DY4A	7.312 in.	3.375 in.	N/A	9.25 in.	1.125 - 12 X 2.125	1.125-12X2.00
015B0120AQ	6.611 in.	3.500 in.	N/A	9.271 in.	Thrd-1.125 OD - 12 x 1.875 x 12 UN-2A	Thrd-1.125 OD - 12 x 1.750, In 1.125 in.12 UN-2A

Cable Adapter: NONE
 Flange Adapter: NONE

SPECIAL FEATURES: NONE

Item #5.

(4) Ø .625 [15.9] HOLES
EQUALLY SPACED AT 90°
ON Ø6.000 [152.4] B.C.



NOTES:
1. THE GAP BETWEEN THE PORCELAIN AND THE CONDUCTOR MUST BE FLOODED WITH OIL. IN ORDER TO FLOOD THIS GAP WITH OIL, IT IS NECESSARY THAT THE BUSHING BE MOUNTED ON APPARATUS AND THEN EVACUATED AT 5mm VACUUM WHILE THE EQUIPMENT IS BEING FILLED WITH OIL. IF VACUUM IS NOT USED WHEN FILLING THE EQUIPMENT, THE VENT PLUG MAY BE USED TO BLEED AIR FROM THE BUSHING.
2. THEY ARE ON THE VERTICAL AXIS FOR HORIZONTAL APPLICATIONS.

NO. & LOC.		REVISIONS										STYLE NO.		CATALOG NO.		OUTER INSULATING ENVELOPE COLOR		INSULATION CLASS kV		BASIC IMPULSE LEVEL kV		MAX. LINE TO GROUND VOLTAGE kV		CONNECTION METHOD AND CONTINUOUS CURRENT A @ 60Hz			MINIMUM CREEP DISTANCE in. / [mm]		MINIMUM ARCING DISTANCE in. / [mm]		MAXIMUM ALTITUDE ft / [m]		MOUNTING ANGLE FROM VERTICAL deg		APPROX. WEIGHT lb / [kg]																												
2		CSR- 1013130 REDRAWN IN PRO/E, CHG'D TO SELF FILLING. C. DILLER 12/08/10 H. DINH 12/10/10										3		"FOR OPTIMUM CORONA PERFORMANCE" REMOVED FROM NOTES: 1 PRABHU 05/21/12 W.A.SHINER 7-23-12										A		DRAWING CLEANUP, MOUNTING ANGLE UPDATED. D.STEDMAN 1/2/24 D.STACY 1/8/24										015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]	
3		"FOR OPTIMUM CORONA PERFORMANCE" REMOVED FROM NOTES: 1 PRABHU 05/21/12 W.A.SHINER 7-23-12										A		DRAWING CLEANUP, MOUNTING ANGLE UPDATED. D.STEDMAN 1/2/24 D.STACY 1/8/24										015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]													
A		DRAWING CLEANUP, MOUNTING ANGLE UPDATED. D.STEDMAN 1/2/24 D.STACY 1/8/24										015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																									
TITLE:		TYPE ICRJ™, IEEE, BULK RUSHING										ABB Inc.		ALAMO, TN U.S.A.										015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]													
RESP. DEPT.:		BUSHINGS										UNITES = in. / [mm]		DRAWING NO.:		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																					
DTR: C. DILLER		08-Dec-10										SCALE = NTS		REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																	
CHMD:		08-Dec-10										SCALE = NTS		REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																	
APPD:		08-Dec-10										SCALE = NTS		REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																	
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM										REV.:		A		SHEET 1 OF 1		015B0120AQ		N/A		GRAY		15		110		10		N/A		1200		N/A		11.660 [296]		6.606 [168]		10000 [3048]		0 TO 90		31 [14.1]																			
P/E FILE KEY:		BULK GEN ASM</																																																													

2025 AGENDA ITEM

Utility Commission Meeting Date: 05/22/2025

ITEM: Water Rate Adjustment

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT MATTER:

A Simplified Rate Case Application was researched and the water utility is eligible. The rate increase factor is 3.0% with an amount of \$51,623. If the application is filed with the Public Service Commission on July 1st, 2025 the new rates could go into effect September 1st, 2025.

LIST ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED:

1. Water Utility Simplified Rate Case Application
2. Customer Notice of Water Rate Increase

ACTION REQUESTED OF COMMISSION:

1. Approval to proceed with filing the Water Utility Simplified Rate Case Application with the Public Service Commission.

Simplified Rate Case Application - Water Class C

1300 - Columbus Water And Light Department

Note: this application is not officially submitted until it is uploaded to the Commission's Electronic Records Filing System.

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

(filing this form out is in accordance with Wis.Stat 196.193)

PO Box 7854

3011(1/1/2020)

Madison WI 53707-7854

Preparer Name: **Michelle Kaltenberg**

Preparer Phone Number: **(920)623-5912**

Preparer Email Address: **mkaltenberg@columbusutilitieswi.com**

Date Application will be filed with the PSC: **07/01/2025**

Notice Date to be Mailed/Published: **06/08/2025**

Newspaper Name: **Direct mail**

Rate Effective Date: **09/01/2025**

	Annual Report Information	Page	
1	Total Sales of Water	W-1	\$1,720,761
2	Rate Increase Factor		3.0%
3	Line 1 * Line 2		\$51,623
4	Net Operating Income (Operating Revenues - Operating Expenses)	W-1	\$377,010
5	Adjusted Total Operating Income (Line 3 + Line 4)		\$428,633
6	Average Net Rate Base - Water Utility	F-23	\$9,445,925
7	Line 5 / Line 6		4.5%
8	Test 1 - Financial Eligibility Qualifies *		Yes
9	Adjusted Operating Income (Line 5)		
10	Total Operation & Maintenance (O&M) expense (600 and 900 accounts only)		
11	Line 9 / Line 10		
12	Test 2 - Financial Eligibility Qualifies **		

* Eligible if line 7 <= 6.20%

** Eligible if line 11 <= 6.0%

History Check

Effective Date of the Last Full Rate Case: **07/15/2019**

Rates from last full rate case have been in effect for at least one full calendar year and the current annual report has been filed. **Yes**

If Class AB, it has been 5 years or less since the last full rate case. **NA**

Effective Date of the Last SRC: **02/01/2024**

Rates from the last SRC have been in effect for one year (12 months). **Yes**

Water Meter Rates

5/8" meter rate at the last full rate case: **13.50**

Current 5/8" meter rate: **14.58**

If Class C or D, current rate is less than 40% higher than the last full rate case. **Yes**

5/8" meter rate percent increase since last full rate case: **8.00%**

Notice of Rate Increase Water Customers of the Columbus Water And Light Department

This is to give you notice that the Columbus Water And Light Department will file an application on July 1, 2025, with the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC), for authority to increase water rates. Rates for general service will increase 3.0 percent. The increase is necessary to reduce the existing deficiency in present rates. The request is being made under Wis. Stat. 196.193. Rate increases granted under this statute do not require a public hearing. The effect of the increase for some selected customers is shown below. Public Fire Protection and Wholesale rates (if applicable) will also increase 3.0 percent.

Customer Classification	Meter Size	Cubic Feet	Existing Monthly Rate	Revised Monthly Rate
Average Residential	3/4	500	\$40.03	\$41.22
Commercial	1	2,600	\$149.89	\$154.41
Multifamily	2	4,100	\$245.62	\$253.07
Public Authority	1 1/2	6,900	\$371.18	\$382.50
Industrial	4	38,300	\$1,795.96	\$1,851.20

Columbus Water And Light Department anticipates that this rate increase will go into effect on September 1, 2025. If you have any questions about the rate increase request, call the Columbus Water And Light Department at (920) 623-5912.



Agenda Item Report

Meeting Type: Utility Commission

Meeting Date: May 22, 2025

Item Title: Consider and take action on 2025 borrowing for Utilities

Submitted By: Matt Amundson, City Administrator

Detailed Description of Subject Matter:

I've worked with the lead Utility staff and Ruekert-Mielke on updating the numbers for 2025 borrowing based on best information available and current projections. The attached document will be updated again prior to the meeting and I will share the updated version with the Commission as soon as it is available. Once approved, Krystal will work with Ehlers and the Bond Commission before it would come to City Council. This process takes a minimum of a month.

List all Supporting Documentation Attached:

2025 Initial Bonding Request for Utilities 5.15.25

Action Requested of Commission:

Approve bonding request

2025 Utilities Bonding by Department

ELECTRIC

2025 2025 Ford F350 Utility Truck Purchase
 Transformers (Inventory & Projects)
 Hospital Project (Up front Purchase)
 American Packaging Transformers
 4.16kV Conversion (Multi year Project)
 Decommission Substation #1
 Reconnect Padmounted Step-Downs
 PLC/Fiber Installation Upgrade
 Circuit 403 Reroute
 Circuit Tie to 202/302
 Increase Substation 2 Transformer

Total

WATER

2025
 Plant #1 Emergency Softening Repair
 Water Portion of Streets Projects
 Plant #2 Dehumidifier 1 of 4
 Iron Filter Automated Backwash Plant #2
 Plant #2 MCC Replacements
 Plant #2 Softener Reconditioning
 Plant #2 Softener Repainting
 Plant #3 Land Search Testing and Purchase
 PLC/Fiber Installation Upgrade

Total

WASTEWATER

2025
 2025 Chevrolet 5500 Hoist Truck
 Biosolids Handling Project
 Rehab Rebuild Sand Filters
 Collection System Contract Work
 Wastewater Portion of Streets Projects
 Scum Pumps & Flanges (Plant submers pumps)
 Effluent Sampling River level monitor and Phos chemical feed and monitoring system

 PLC/Fiber Installation Upgrade

Total

2025

Updated Amount	Amount
\$79,903	\$ 79,903
\$550,000	\$ 720,750
\$320,000	\$ 320,000
\$51,000	\$ 700,000
\$0	\$ 6,600,000
\$10,000	\$ 10,000
\$10,000	\$ 10,000
\$50,000	
\$0	
\$0	
\$0	
\$1,070,903	\$ 8,440,653

2025

Updated Amount	Amount
\$120,000	\$ 120,000
\$340,000	\$ 175,000
	\$ 18,164
\$305,500	\$ 293,000
\$286,200	\$ 283,379
	\$ 298,906
	\$ 135,651
\$32,761	\$ 300,000
\$50,000	
\$1,134,461	\$ 1,624,100

2025

Updated Amount	Amount
\$151,565	\$ 151,565
\$229,319	\$ 229,319
\$300,000	\$ 450,000
\$300,000	\$ 300,000
\$123,000	\$ 110,000
\$100,000	\$ 100,000
\$135,000	\$ 150,000
 \$75,000	 \$ 175,000
\$1,413,884	\$ 1,665,884

Notes

Approximately \$170,000 to be paid for by Prairie Ridge; remainder is for underground work

Should be close, check with Jake T.

Updated from bids

Awaiting Completion of Plant #1 work -confirm with Utility Staff.

Awaiting Completion of Plant #1 work - increased cost by 4%

Awaiting Completion of Plant #1 work -increased cost by 4%

Awaiting Completion of Plant #1 work - Supplier stated cost update by 5/16/2025

Awaiting Completion of Plant #1 work - Supplier stated cost update by 5/16/2025

Adjusted to fee in Task Order- moved

Will apply for WDNR Clean Water Fund. No guarantee they will be approved.

Not Final # Seems high. \$300,000 seems more appropriate.

(R-M Managed Project jetting, televising, repairs)

Updated from bids

(Unknown if actually a planned Wastewater Project) Is updated amount column supposed to be \$175,000? Costs for 2026 and 2027 are fairly accurate. 2026 and 2027 number do not include fiber cost? Is 2025 column only fiber?

2026 2027 2028

\$970,000 \$2,200,000

\$62,000
\$361,000

\$2,562,000

\$1,393,000	\$2,200,000	\$2,562,000
-------------	-------------	-------------

2026 2027 2028

275000

--	--	--

2026 2027 2028

\$ 2,189,495

\$ 355,700 \$ 15,000

--	--	--

Utilities Department Report

Electric Department:

- Working on the Substation #3 Project and the Highway K Project
- Continuing with required safety training
- Preliminary planning for Cardinal Heights and the Hospital Rebuild

Water Department:

- Progressing with Water Plant #1 Valve Replacement Project
- Installing seasonal meters
- Planning for the 2025 Street Projects and Hospital Extension

Wastewater Department:

- Cleaning and televising Highway 73 and Ludington Street looking and planning repairs needed prior to construction
- Continuing with man hole inspections
- Currently compiling the Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR) for the DNR



1425 Corporate Center Drive Sun Prairie, WI 53590-9109 608.834.4500 wppienergy.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michelle Kaltenberg

CC: Chelsea Lisowe

FROM: Adam Dikeman, Mallory Kleven, Phil Paque

DATE: May 5, 2025

SUBJECT: **Typical Bill Comparison Summary**

Attached is a summary of the current typical bill comparison for WPPI Energy members. It compares the utility's current electric rates to comparable rates of the investor-owned utilities for standard usage of residential, commercial and large power/industrial customers. Actuals for January to March and budgeted 2025 wholesale power cost information was applied in the comparison to estimate the average annual PCAC, if applicable.

Wisconsin Members

This comparison applies the current approved rates for Alliant, MG&E, WE Energies, WPS and XCEL. All associated fuel surcharges or credits (excluding one-time adjustments) are also applied. The table below summarizes the most recent approved rate activity for the IOUs which are reflected in the typical bill comparison.

Investor-Owned Utility	Percent Change	Effective Date	Docket Number
Alliant Energy			
(2024 base rates)	3.76%	1/1/24	6680-UR-124
(2025 base rates)	4.51%	1/1/25	6680-UR-124
(2025 fuel adjustment)	1.30%	1/1/25	6680-ER-104
Madison Gas & Electric (MG&E)			
(2025 base rates)	4.23%	1/1/25	3270-UR-125
(2025 fuel adjustment)	-1.45%	1/1/25	3270-FR-2024
WE Energies			
(2025 base rates)	4.17%	1/1/25	5-UR-111
(2026 base rate adjustment)	4.52%	1/1/26	5-UR-111
Wisconsin Public Service (WPS)			
(2025 base rates)	4.48%	1/1/25	6690-UR-128
(2026 base rate adjustment)	2.34%	1/1/26	6690-UR-128
XCEL Energy			
(2024 base rates)	0.13%	1/1/24	4220-UR-126
(2025 fuel adjustment)	-2.80%	1/1/25	4220-ER-103

Pending Rate Proceedings	Percent Proposed	Filed Date	Docket Number
Alliant Energy (2026 base rate adjustment) (2027 base rate adjustment)	8.30% 5.70%	3/31/25	6680-UR-125
Madison Gas & Electric (MG&E) (2026 base rate adjustment) (2027 base rate adjustment)	4.89% 4.33%	4/1/25	3270-UR-126
WE Energies (2026 fuel adjustment)			6630-ER-107
Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) (2026 fuel adjustment)			6690-ER-107
XCEL Energy (2026 base rate adjustment) (2027 base rate adjustment)	11.78% 7.15%	4/1/25	4220-UR-127

*IOU fuel adjustments which are only applied over a one month period are not reflected in the comparison.

If you have any questions regarding this comparison, please let us know.

Adam Dikeman adikeman@wppienergy.org 608-834-4589

Mallory Kleven mkleven@wppienergy.org 608-834-4570

Phil Paque ppaque@wppienergy.org 608-834-4580

Attachment

**COLUMBUS WATER & LIGHT
ELECTRIC RATE COMPARISON - BASED ON 2025 ACTUALS (JAN-MAR) AND BUDGET
MONTHLY BILL CALCULATION**

RESIDENTIAL	RATES	Columbus (1)	WE Energies (2)	Percent Above or Below	Wisconsin Public Service (3)	Percent Above or Below	Alliant Energy (4)	Percent Above or Below	XCEL Energy (5)	Percent Above or Below	Madison Gas & Electric (6)	Percent Above or Below
100 kWh		\$20.63	\$33.38	61.8%	\$32.23	56.2%	\$31.43	32.3%	\$28.72	39.2%	\$33.16	60.7%
500 kWh		\$67.15	\$106.91	59.2%	\$89.45	33.2%	\$97.14	44.7%	\$83.60	24.5%	\$105.81	57.6%
750 kWh		\$96.23	\$152.86	58.9%	\$125.21	30.1%	\$138.20	43.6%	\$117.91	22.5%	\$151.21	57.1%
1,000 kWh		\$125.30	\$198.81	58.7%	\$160.97	28.5%	\$179.27	43.1%	\$152.21	21.5%	\$196.61	56.9%
2,000 kWh		\$241.60	\$382.62	58.4%	\$304.02	25.8%	\$343.54	42.2%	\$289.41	19.8%	\$378.22	56.5%
GENERAL SERVICE												
4 kW 500 kWh (1-phase)		\$69.20	\$98.56	42.4%	\$91.81	32.7%	\$87.08	25.8%	\$83.60	20.8%	\$98.23	42.0%
16 kW 2,000 kWh (1-phase)		\$246.80	\$349.22	41.5%	\$284.33	15.2%	\$297.34	30.5%	\$289.41	17.3%	\$321.22	30.2%
30 kW 6,000 kWh (3-phase)		\$727.40	\$1,017.66	39.9%	\$814.31	11.9%	\$966.71	32.9%	\$860.70	18.3%	\$1,245.59	71.2%
40 kW 10,000 kWh (3-phase)		\$1,201.00	\$1,569.89	30.7%	\$1,327.71	10.6%	\$1,479.18	23.2%	\$1,279.81	6.6%	\$1,789.74	49.0%
SMALL POWER SERVICE												
150 kW 60,000 kWh (secondary)		\$6,084.48	\$7,905.51	29.9%	\$6,212.31	2.1%	\$6,539.84	7.5%	\$6,406.51	5.3%	\$8,321.13	36.8%
LARGE POWER TOD SERVICE (7)												
300 kW 120,000 kWh (secondary)		\$11,848.81	\$15,750.19	32.9%	\$12,331.63	4.1%	\$13,204.93	11.4%	\$13,482.84	13.8%	\$16,972.52	43.2%
500 kW 200,000 kWh (primary)		\$19,189.76	\$25,595.71	33.4%	\$20,085.32	4.7%	\$21,297.79	11.0%	\$21,178.26	10.4%	\$27,683.37	44.3%
1,000 kW 400,000 kWh (primary)		\$39,522.74	\$50,590.37	28.0%	\$38,743.54	(2.0%)	\$42,406.08	7.3%	\$42,176.53	6.7%	\$51,929.59	31.4%

- (1) COLUMBUS WATER & LIGHT bills estimated using rates effective 45351 and a projected 2025 PCAC of
(2) WE Energies based on their approved 2025 rates and includes a fuel adjustment of \$0.00 (1/1/24) and Env Control Charge (12/1/24) that varies by rate class for a total adj of:
(3) WPSC based on their approved 2025 rates and includes a fuel adjustment of \$0.00 (eff 1/1/23) for a total of:
(4) Alliant Energy based on their approved 2025 rates and includes a fuel adjustment of \$0.004667 (1/1/24-12/31/25) plus \$0.001602 (1/1/25-12/31/25) for a total of:
(5) XCEL Energy based on their approved 2024 rates and includes a fuel adjustment credit of \$0.00346 (1/1/25-12/31/25) for a total of:
(6) MG&E based on their approved 2025 rates and a fuel adjustment credit of \$0.00247 (1/1/25) for a total of:
(7) For TOU rates, on- and off-peak energy splits are adjusted to match the billing periods of each utility.

\$ (0.0029) per kWh
\$ 0.00056 per kWh
\$ - per kWh
\$ 0.00627 per kWh
\$ (0.00346) per kWh
\$ (0.00247) per kWh



Orientation

Orientation to WPPI Energy

Wednesday, June 18, 2025

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CST • WPPI Energy



WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This half-day educational program is optimal for new utility staff and governing body members, but suitable for all member representatives.

Join Us!

Members are invited to attend this educational program about your joint action agency. Through staff presentations, attendees will learn more about the three functions of WPPI: power supply, government relations and support services. Included in the program is a tour of WPPI's Systems Operation Center. The morning starts with a continental networking breakfast and finishes up with lunch.

Agenda

- » Introduction to WPPI
 - Organizational overview
 - History
 - Governance
 - Financial Outlook
- » Government Relations
- » Power Supply Resources and Operations
- » Support Services Overview
 - Technology
 - Customer Engagement
 - Distribution

RSVP

To attend, register:
wppienergy.org/orientation

Questions?

Contact: Kayla Pierce
kpierce@wppienergy.org • 608-837-4537

LIVELines

Volume 74, Issue 5 • May 2025

Annual Conference includes celebration of individuals, utilities

The long history of recognizing individuals who champion the values of public power will continue as MEUW honors several individuals at the association's 95th Annual Conference, which will be held May 14–16 in La Crosse. The awards will be presented during a ceremony on Thursday, May 15. In addition to the individual honors, 43 organizations are being recognized for their safety performance in 2024.

"The individuals and utilities MEUW will be recognizing embody the association's mission to unify and strengthen community-owned utilities in Wisconsin," said MEUW President and CEO Tim Heinrich. "Honoring the people who demonstrate a commitment to public power is important to MEUW's continued and long-term success."

This year, MEUW is honoring two individuals — Andy Onesti of Manitowoc Public Utilities and Duane Vandermause of JD Mause, LLC — with Meritorious Service Awards. This award is presented to individuals to recognize outstanding service/achievement or other recognizable acts while an employee of an MEUW member utility, or in service to MEUW and its members.

Exemplary Service Awards will be presented to Waterloo Utilities Office Manager Joy Bisco and Menasha Utilities General Manager Melanie Krause. This award recognizes outstanding service/achievement or other recognizable acts, including contributions to MEUW through committee meetings and groups.

The Excellence in Line Work Award celebrates individuals who consistently demonstrate dedication to their profession as a lineworker. It recognizes municipal utility employees who are committed to the trade and exceptional technical proficiency. This year, two individuals are being honored — Ryan Pelowski from Trempealeau Municipal Electric & Water Utility and Andrew Ruder of Stoughton Utilities.

MEUW Retirement Awards will be given to four individuals in recognition of their service to their utilities and to MEUW through board and/or

committee participation. Former MEUW Board Chair Rick Wicklund of Sun Prairie Utilities will receive recognition, as will Dave Euclide of Sun Prairie Utilities and Lori Nyhus of Cumberland Utilities, both long-time members of MEUW's Accounting and Customer



Service Committee. Greg Buckley, Two Rivers City Manager, also will be recognized for his upcoming retirement and to show appreciation of his many years of service to public power.

Utilities honored for safety excellence

Forty-three member utilities will be presented with the MEUW Safety Achievement Award, which has been presented since 1999 to recognize safety performance and to encourage proactive safety activities.

Awards are given based on voluntary reporting and recognizes the municipal

Continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Statewide working group seeks to address utility-locate issues
Page 4

MEUW News Monitor
Page 5

Wisconsin Utility News Digest: IOUs file for rate increases
Page 9

Join in summer events and help showcase community pride
Pages 11

Classifieds — **Page 12**

Continued from page 1

utilities' dedication to employees' on-the-job focus: following safety rules, using safe work practices and looking out for one another.

The Award also acknowledges the commitment of management and the utility governing board to ensuring an environment that supports safe operations. This includes providing employees with the equipment they need to do the job safely as well as the training to maintain or improve skills.

Award recipients are placed in categories — gold, silver and bronze — based on scoring against key criteria that promote a strong safety culture. See list of honorees below.

Individuals honored for support of public power



Andy Onesti is Chief Innovation Officer at Manitowoc Public Utilities (MPU), having joined as Power Supply Manager 17 years ago. He has more than 35 years of experience in municipal electric utilities, starting his career at Shawano Municipal Utilities (SMU) as a Meter Tester before advancing to an Electrical Engineer position and concluding his final four years as SMU's General Manager prior to joining MPU. Andy's extensive experience in utility design, electric distribution systems, and power supply planning

has helped pioneer a multi-year project to refuel two existing primarily fossil fuel-fired power plants to run exclusively on Wisconsin-recognized 100% renewable densified fuel pellets.



Duane Vandermause is a contract Engineer/Assistant Director of Public Works for the City of Lake Mills. He is a professional civil engineer with membership in American Public Works Association (APWA) and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) with more than 35 years of experience consulting on numerous municipal infrastructure projects in Wisconsin. In his spare time Duane has an interest in the stock market, traveling, and sports activities.

has helped pioneer a multi-year project to refuel two existing primarily fossil fuel-fired power plants to run exclusively on Wisconsin-recognized 100% renewable densified fuel pellets.



Joy Bisco has worked at Waterloo Utilities for 10 years, starting as Utility Accountant and then becoming Office Manager. She has helped advance the utility by helping implement new software and products that streamline the way the office and Waterloo Utilities as a whole runs. As the person responsible for the utility's accounting, she has also helped Commission members better understand the ins and outs of utility finances so they can make educated decisions for the Utility. She has an associate degree in Accounting and earned the Joint Action Leadership Certificate from WPPI Energy, where she serves on the Board as the Alternate from Waterloo.

She represents her district in northeast Wisconsin as a member of the MEUW Board of Directors. She also has been involved in numerous other advisory groups as a Board member for WPPI Energy, where she serves on the Executive Committee.



Melanie Krause has worked in municipal utilities for more than 25 years. She started with Menasha Utilities in June 1997 as the Business Operations Accountant. In 2005 she became the Manager of Business Operations and then was Co-General Manager in 2010 when engineering and business operations were split. She was named to her current role as General Manager in September 2013.

She represents her district in northeast Wisconsin as a member of the MEUW Board of Directors. She also has been involved in numerous other advisory groups as a Board member for WPPI Energy, where she serves on the Executive Committee.

Continued on page 3

2025 Safety Achievement Award Honorees

GOLD Category

Boscobel Utilities
Cedarburg Light and Water Commission
Clintonville Utilities
Columbus Utilities
Eagle River Light & Water
Elroy Electric Utility
Evansville Water & Light
Fennimore Municipal Utilities
Florence Municipal Utilities
Hartford Utilities
Hustisford Utilities
Juneau Utilities Commission
Kaukauna Utilities
Lake Mills Utilities
Lodi Utilities
Marshfield Utilities

City of Medford
Menasha Utilities
Muscoda Utilities
Oconomowoc Utilities
Oconto Falls Municipal Utilities
Plymouth Utilities
Prairie du Sac Electric Utility
Rice Lake Utilities
City Utilities of Richland Center
Sauk City Utilities
Sun Prairie Utilities
Trempealeau Municipal Utility
Two Rivers Water & Light
Waunakee Utilities
Waupun Utilities
Wisconsin Rapids Water Works & Lighting Commission

SILVER Category

Arcadia Electric Utility
City of Cuba City
Cumberland Municipal Utility
Gresham Municipal Utility
Manitowoc Public Utilities
New Holstein Utilities
New Lisbon Utilities
New London Utilities
River Falls Municipal Utilities
Shawano Municipal Utilities
Stoughton Utilities
Vanguard Electric

If you're interested in attending the May 15 Awards Luncheon, registration is available [here](#).

Continued from page 2



Ryan Pelowski, Lead Lineman for Trempealeau Municipal Utilities (TMU), has 19 years of experience with municipal utilities, with 16 years at

TMU and 3 years with Bangor Municipal Utilities. He is a member of MEUW's Safety and Education committee and assisted with the 4th year Journeyman's testing at Chippewa Valley Technical College this year, which has been a long-term goal of his. Ryan truly is a practitioner of leading by example and continues to raise the bar and strive for higher standards and performance.



Andrew Ruder is a Journeyman Lineworker at Stoughton Utilities, where he has worked for 10 years. He started his career as an apprentice fol-

lowing his graduation from Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. He was nominated for this honor, in part, due to his commendable character. Andy's optimistic attitude and approachable demeanor contribute to a supportive team environment, promoting a culture of safety and a strong commitment to both individual careers and the team's overall success. He regularly volunteers for activities outside of the normal workday to help support the team and community. Andy was also among the lineworkers who traveled to

provide mutual aid following Hurricane Milton in 2024 in Lakeland, Florida.

Those receiving individual honors were nominated by MEUW stakeholders, and the nominations were reviewed by members of the Awards Committee, which is chaired by Brian Rhodes of Hartford. Other members of the committee are Tim Aaby of Rice Lake, and Dave Pahl of Kaukauna.

Following the MEUW Honors Awards Luncheon that is part of the Annual Conference in La Crosse, MEUW will issue news releases and post details about the honorees on social media and the association's website. Members are encouraged to share those posts with their networks to help share the news and draw attention to the people who are making a difference and supporting public power in Wisconsin. ●





FORSTER

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Partnering with municipal utilities to offer full service electrical engineering *design* and *consulting*.

CONSULTING AND SYSTEM PLANNING
SUBSTATION DESIGN | DISTRIBUTION LINE DESIGN
GIS MAPPING | REMOTE SYSTEM MONITORING

550 N. Burr Oak Ave. Oregon, WI 53575 | 608.835.9009 | forstereng@forstereng.com | forstereng.com



BoardmanClark

Municipal Utility Counsel

ENERGY • TELECOMMUNICATIONS • WATER & WASTEWATER
ENVIRONMENTAL • CELL TOWER LEASES • LABOR & EMPLOYMENT
LAND USE • RIGHT-OF-WAY MANAGEMENT • GREEN STRATEGIES

MADISON WI | (608) 257-9521 | BOARDMANCLARK.COM



ENGINEERS & CONSULTANTS
POWERSYSTEM.ORG | 608-222-8400

Forward-Thinking Solutions for Business, Engineering, and Technology

- Economics, Rates, & Business Planning
- Utility Engineering & Design
- Renewable Energy Resources
- System Planning & Studies
- Power Generation & Industrial Engineering

Statewide working group seeks to address utility-locate issues

Ask any municipal utility leader about an issue that frustrates them and you're sure to get an earful about utility locates. The process is an ongoing challenge caused by inaccuracies, delays, and the complexity of underground infrastructure. Contractors and homeowners alike can face challenges with locating utilities accurately, leading to potential damage, project delays, and increased costs. One group — the Wisconsin Damage Prevention Council (WI DPC) — is actively working to address the issue. Formed in 2023, WI DPC is bringing stakeholders together to help improve processes and address common issues that contribute to utility locating problems. WI DPC came into being after Diggers Hotline was asked by excavators and planners to fix the increasing number of locating issues, even though Diggers Hotline doesn't actually do locates or manage locate companies and has no authority to enforce state statute.

According to Mike Meyer of Diggers Hotline, WI DPC began by discussing and identifying a long list of contributing factors and potential solutions that could impact safety and damage prevention. Three specific areas were prioritized with corresponding subcommittees formed to focus on:

- Improved data sharing related to large-scale projects such as planned annual road-construction and fiber-expansion projects and development of an online repository to share future project plans to provide locators time to fine-tune their staffing needs;
- Enhancements to training and resources, including the potential for mandatory training for excavations, especially out-of-state contractors; and
- Potential legislative action to strengthen accountability and enforcement.

Despite the difficulty of legislative change, the subcommittee is actively working to brainstorm solutions that can benefit damage prevention in the long run. Current statutes focus on enforcement only for gas and hazardous materials, and there has been discussion about expanding that to include all facility types and improving and streamlining the enforcement process.

Members' *NEWS*

Two employees have recently joined Kaukauna Utilities: **Lisa Holmes** is a Billing Specialist and **Dennis Grimm, Jr.** is a Junior Mechanical Technician.

Terri Greenfield has joined Waupun Utilities as an Accounting Coordinator.

Send us your news! Tell MEUW about new hires, promotions, retirements, honors, and awards: news@meuw.org

In Memoriam



Gerald "Jerry" Ewert, longtime General Manager of Black River Falls Municipal Utilities, passed away on March 30, at age 72. Jerry was President of MEUW's Board of Directors in 2013-14. The full obituary is [here](#).

The WI DPC has also discussed alternatives to the three-working-day start date. For example, tickets filed at 9:00 a.m. on a Monday enable work to start on Thursday at 9:00 a.m. (three working days from the day and time the ticket was initiated). One solution is to move to a system where no matter what time the ticket is called in — for example, whether it's 9:00 a.m., noon, or 4:00 p.m. on Monday — the start date and time would be on Thursday at anytime after 12:01 a.m. The change has been implemented in other states and is helping locators to better schedule and group work instead of having to be at certain locations by certain times each day. Similarly, other states also have implemented uniform ticket sizes, limiting tickets to a quarter-mile or less in urban areas or a half-mile in rural areas.

The challenges of utility locates has been the subject of presentations at the Electric Operations Conference & Expo in both 2024 and 2025. MEUW is following the work of the WI DPC and will keep members informed. Anyone interested in participating in WI DPC meetings is welcome to do so. For more information, please contact MEUW's Director of Legislative and Regulatory Relations Tyler Vorpagel. ●



We **connect buyers and sellers** on a global platform specializing in Construction Utility & Power Utility Equipment, Trucks and Fleet Vehicles

Phil Stoegerer | Senior Account Manager for Wisconsin | (262) 308-2554 | phil@jjkane.com

MEUW NEWS Monitor

New Regional Safety Manager joins MEUW



Bill Freidig joined MEUW as Regional Safety Manager on April 30. Most recently, he was Lead Safety Consultant at Alliant Energy, where he

worked for 25 years. He also runs his own health-consultancy company, focusing on life-skill development for youth and adults. He graduated from UW-Platteville, where he played basketball under Coach Bo Ryan. He reports to Mike Czuprynski, Director of Safety Services and Operations, and will provide safety services to Columbus, Cuba City, Evansville, Hartford, Lake Mills, and Sun Prairie. Bill grew up on a farm in southwest Wisconsin and now lives in Verona. He and his wife, Carla, have five adult children and seven grandchildren.

Limited spots still available for upcoming Excavation Competent Person workshop

Learn safe excavation operation to avoid a common hazard faced by utility employees. As with any hazard, a well-

trained employee is the best defense against injuries on the job. MEUW is pleased to offer Excavation Competent Person training that includes both classroom and hands-on field training.

Attendees will review OSHA's 29 CFR 1926 Subpart P Excavation Standard (adopted and enforced by the state under SPS 332) and learn safety aspects, potential hazards, protective systems and planning for safe excavation and trenching. Choose from among three remaining dates and locations. Details and instructor information can be found [here](#). Space is limited.

Virtual training workshop will help "professionalize" your communications skills

We communicate with customers every day, using several different methods. Part of our "The Power of One" customer service training series, this 90-minute virtual training will help participants master the art of clear and professional communication across email, text, and phone interactions. This course covers essential phone skills such as active listening and gathering key information to ensure effective outcomes. It will explore etiquette, policies,

and legal considerations for written communication. Additionally, participants will learn to craft concise, impactful emails, and texts that enhance customer service and reflect professionalism. The training will be held virtually on Thursday, May 22, at 10:00 a.m. Registrants have the choice to enroll as an individual learner or have one person from your municipality register for group viewing. Registration information is [here](#).

Next Fundamentals of Utility Management training series course set for June 4

Continue — or kickstart — your own professional development by attending the Utility Planning and Risk Management course planned for June 4 in Mauston. Recognizing the complexity of electric utilities as well as the careful attention to detail and comprehensive planning that's needed to maximize operational efficiency, this one-day course will explore basic strategic and operational planning and discuss how careful risk assessment can influence long-term success. The training is suitable for municipal workers at all skill levels and backgrounds. Additional information and registration are available [here](#). ●

Investor-owned utilities disclose CEO pay ratios based on 2024 total compensation

U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) regulation requires a public company to disclose the ratio of the total compensation paid to its chief executive officer (CEO) to the median compensation of its employees. The requirement was mandated by the Dodd-Frank Act, a massive financial reform law passed in 2010 to prevent another crisis like the one in 2007–2008. The disclosure went into effect in 2017 and is intended to provide shareholders with information they can use to evaluate the reasonableness of a CEO's compensation. Companies have discretion in the methodology used to identify the profile of the median employee and that employee's compensation, which is only required to be updated once every three years. The four largest investor-owned utilities serving Wisconsin customers included the disclosures in proxy statements issued with their annual reports to shareholders this spring. The details are summarized in the table at right.

Company	Chief Executive Officer(CEO)	CEO's Total Compensation in 2024	Median Employee Compensation ¹	Ratio
Alliant Energy Corporation	Lisa Barton	\$6,971,735	\$136,985	51 to 1
Madison Gas and Electric Co.	Jeff Keebler	\$2,126,131	\$138,555	15.3 to 1
WEC Energy Group ²	Scott Lauber	\$10,948,901	\$134,977	81 to 1
Xcel Energy Corp.	Bob Frenzel	\$12,932,063	\$130,406	99 to 1

¹ Median employee compensation amounts exclude the CEO and are based on fiscal-year data from internal payroll records for all individuals employed at year-end; Alliant and MGE used data as of Dec. 31, 2023, WEC used data as of Dec. 31, 2022, and Xcel used data as of Dec. 31, 2024.

² WEC is the parent company of utilities that do business as We Energies and Wisconsin Public Service Corp.

LIVELines

Official monthly publication of **Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin, Inc.**, the statewide trade association representing the interests of Wisconsin's public power providers since 1928.

This e-newsletter is distributed to more than 1,200 utility professionals and leaders throughout Wisconsin and the Midwest on the first Tuesday of every month.

LIVE LINES has been published continuously for many decades and provides useful information, news on emerging utility issues and legislation, updates on events, training programs and member services, as well as engaging feature stories spotlighting utilities, communities and leaders.

Reader comments and suggestions are welcome — send by email to news@meuw.org

MEUW Office Staff

Tim Heinrich
President and CEO

Mike Czuprynko
Director of Safety Services
and Operations

Tyler Vorpapel
Director of Legislative
and Regulatory Relations

Sharon Wolf
Manager of Communications
and Events

MEUW Office

725 Lois Drive
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
(608) 837-2263
www.meuw.org



An archive of past issues of *Live Lines* is available at www.issuu.com/meuw

A note of thanks ...

Recently, Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) needed additional assistance due to an unexpected faculty absence. When this urgent situation arose, MEUW reached out to CVTC and graciously offered to help. MEUW employee **Don Harnisch** stepped up as a CVTC Adjunct Faculty and helped out with very short notice to conduct testing for 4th year journeyman. Without this responsive assistance from MEUW, CVTC would have delayed the completion of the fourth-year students. We are grateful for our relationship and your speedy response to our needs.



On behalf of everyone involved in the 4th Year Journeyman Lineman Testing, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude for your invaluable time, expertise, and dedication. Your participation played a critical role in the success of this year's testing and in the development of the next generation of linemen.

We are incredibly fortunate to have had such a skilled and experienced group of professionals volunteering their time. Special thanks go out to:

- **Tim Wiste** – River Falls Municipal Utilities
- **Mike Kurkowski** – Superior Water and Light
- **Ryan Kenealy** – Dairyland Power Cooperative
- **Mike Otteson** – Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative
- **Mike Vanderwyst** – Marshfield Utilities
- **Aaron Harnisch** – Alliant Energy
- **Sam Turner** – Riverland Energy Cooperative
- **Ryan Pelowski** – Trempealeau Municipal Electric Utility
- **Nate Scheithauer and Kyle Levra** – St. Croix Electric Cooperative
- **Conner Leonard** – Xcel Energy
- **Nate Gustum** – Barron Electric Cooperative
- **Jeff Fellenz** – Clark Electric Cooperative

And an extra special thank you to Don from MEUW for his exceptional role in facilitating and organizing the class. Don's friendly and kind demeanor, combined with his remarkable organizational skills, made this training a seamless and valuable experience for everyone involved. His dedication truly stands out and made a significant impact on the success of this event.

Your organization's commitment to safety, excellence, and mentorship is what keeps our trade strong and moving forward. MEUW's willingness to support the testing process not only ensures a high standard in our field but also demonstrates the values that make our industry proud.



Thank you again for your outstanding contribution. We hope to continue working alongside such dedicated professionals in the future.

With sincere appreciation,
**CVTC ENERGY
EDUCATION CENTER**

Associate Members supply goods and services to support operations

Municipal utilities — like many other businesses — rely on suppliers who provide goods and services to help keep their operations running smoothly. Recognizing the value these supply-partners provide to association members, MEUW offers an Associate Membership for businesses and other entities — as well as the individuals who represent them. Through this membership, MEUW provides suppliers with access to MEUW members, making available opportunities to connect with utility employees to develop and strengthen business relationships.

So far in 2025, more than 125 companies have paid dues as Associate Members of MEUW. Their direct support helps MEUW maintain reasonable registration fees for events like the Electric Operations Conference & Expo and the Annual Conference (including the golf outing). A listing of Associate Members, including a link to their websites, is available on MEUW.org and can be accessed [here](#).

If you know a supplier who would benefit from building a stronger connection with the municipal-utility community across Wisconsin, let them know about MEUW's [Associate Membership](#). The program is changing for 2026, with the goal of making it even easier for suppliers to maximize their investment. Full details will be rolled out in late summer. ●

Municipal leaders from across northwest Wisconsin gathered in Rice Lake on April 11 to discuss safety practices, operational challenges, and strategic issues affecting their utilities and the industry overall. The discussions included updates on mutual aid, safety auditing, accident-reporting procedures, and the importance of training first responders to deal with downed power lines. The group also talked about service territory issues, political challenges in the region, and generational differences in the workforce.

Nine communities were represented at the meeting, which also included discussion about rising costs, sched-



ule delays, and errors impacting engineering projects. The meeting was organized by MEUW Regional Safety Manager Brian Johnson and was marked by

open dialogue, valuable peer-to-peer learning, and a shared commitment to continuous improvement in safety and service. Those participating included (from left) Josh Ash, Ryan Runden (both of Cumberland), Ryan Schlapper (Spooner), Jaden Ebert (Cameron), Jeremy Boe (Barron), Jimmy Smith, Tim Aaby (both of Rice Lake), MEUW's Brian Johnson, Wes Arndt (New Richmond), and Wayne Siveringling (River Falls). Tim Kuhn (Bloomer) is not pictured.

Supplier SHOWCASE

34 S. Third St. Suite 400
Columbus, Ohio

225 W. Wacker Dr.
Chicago, Illinois

www.onsitepartners.com

OnSite Partners has over 40 years of executive level experience in wholesale competitive energy markets. We are focused on innovative, behind-the-meter energy solutions like solar, battery storage, combined heat and power, resiliency and capacity as-a-service, substations, and fuel cells. Our team brings expertise to businesses and communities nationwide — offering Advisory Services and Energy as a Service, energy supply management, and decarbonization strategies that can make or break a project's success. We have over 300 MW across 90 distributed resource projects in more than 20 states.

Our company has deep roots and an exciting role at the intersection of energy and economic development. We can develop solutions for municipalities for economic development growth so they can respond to RFI and know they will have the power, even if the investor-owned or other utility can't guarantee it and/or it will take a while to get that up and running.

Municipalities continue to face ever increasing challenges in the areas of energy costs, reliability, capacity costs/availability and sustainability. Our solutions help municipalities address these challenges. By collaborating with OnSite Partners, our team can improve your area's energy value proposition, attract high-quality investments, and accelerate business growth.



We are happy to support MEUW and look forward to connecting with current and new business partners. See you in La Crosse!

Get to know a little about some Wisconsin lawmakers



This regular feature helps readers get to know Wisconsin elected officials and better understand their views on policies that may impact municipal utilities.

Rep. Green sits on Energy and Utilities Committee



Chanz Green (R-Grand View) has represented District 74 in the Wisconsin State Assembly

since his election in 2022. The district is located in northwest Wisconsin and includes all of Iron, Sawyer, and Washburn Counties, most of Ashland County, the southern half of Bayfield County, the southern half of Douglas County, and part of northeast Burnett County.

Notably, Green is a member of the Assembly Committee on Energy and Utilities. He serves as Chair of the Committee on Tourism and Vice Chair of the Committee on State Affairs. He is also a member of the Commerce; Rural Development; Sporting Heritage; Criminal Justice and Public Safety; and Forestry, Parks and Outdoor Recreation committees.

He has worked on a wide range of legislative proposals, from hunting regulations and tax reforms — such as income-tax deductions on overtime wages — to promoting mental health

training in schools and supporting grants for technical education equipment.

Born in Amery in Polk County, Green graduated from Amery High School in 2009. While in high school, he began working for the city's Department of Public Works, eventually rising to the position of Assistant Director. He later built a career in municipal utilities, ultimately becoming the Utilities Manager for Ashland, which operates its own water and sewer utility but does not have a municipal electric utility.

His experience in municipal water and sewer utilities played a significant role in shaping his understanding of utility operations. He has publicly emphasized the importance of modernizing and maintaining utility infrastructure to ensure reliable service for Wisconsin residents.

Green is also a small business owner, operating Ashland Event Rentals and the Pioneer Bar in Cable.

He enjoys spending time outside and is an avid hunter and fisherman. He currently lives in Grand View with his girlfriend, Katie.

Rep. Hysell is new to representing the 48th



Andrew Hysell (D-Sun Prairie) became the Representative for Wisconsin's 48th

District in January. The 48th district is in northeast Dane County and southwest Dodge

County and includes Sun Prairie and parts of the east side of Madison.

Hysell is a member of the Committee on Constitution and Ethics, Committee on Judiciary, and the Committee on Rules. On his website, he says his priorities are healthcare affordability, education reform, and economic opportunity.

Hysell was born in Ridgewood, N.J., and moved several times during childhood, eventually landing in Wisconsin. He graduated from Milwaukee's Pius XI High School and earned his bachelor's degree from Carroll University in 1993.

After college, he worked for Senate and Assembly Democrats — starting off as an intern and then serving as a legislative aide. In 1996, he began working on campaigns, including leading fundraising efforts for Maine Democrat Tom Allen's congressional run. He also held roles in several advocacy organizations, including the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids and Save the Children. Additionally, he directed the Campaign for Healthy Kids and partnered with the Let's Move! Campaign championed by then-First Lady Michelle Obama.

In 2013, Hysell co-founded a management consulting firm, Hysell & Wagner LLC, which was involved in administering the Kansas Reading Roadmap program.

Hysell returned to Wisconsin in 2013 and worked for CTA Strategies, LLC, a public policy consulting firm. Two years later, he also joined the Madi-

son law firm Lawton & Cates.

He made an unsuccessful bid for the 46th district seat in 2022 before winning election in 2024.

Hysell currently resides in Sun Prairie.

Sen. Ratcliff represents the 16th, serves on Utilities Committee



Melissa Ratcliff (D-Cottage Grove) is the State Senator for Wisconsin's 16th Senate District, a

position she has held since January 2025. Prior to this, she represented the 46th Assembly District in the Wisconsin State Assembly from 2023 to 2025.

Wisconsin's 16th Senate District is located in south-central Wisconsin. It includes much of eastern Dane County, western Jefferson County, and part of southwest Dodge County. Some of the cities and villages within this district are Stoughton, Sun Prairie, and Cottage Grove.

Ratcliff serves on the Committee on Utilities and Tourism. She also sits on the committees on Administrative Rules and Information Policy and Technology. Additionally, she is a member of the Joint Legislative Audit, Joint Review of Administrative Rules, and the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems.

Ratcliff was born and raised in Wausau. She graduated from Wausau East High School and earned her paralegal certification from Madison Area Technical College. She worked as a paralegal for 24 years at Eisenberg Law Offices in Madison.

Continued on page 9

Wisconsin UTILITY NEWS Digest

Three investor-owned utilities file rate increase requests

Alliant Energy, Madison Gas and Electric (MGE), and Xcel Energy have each filed applications with the Public Service Commission (PSC) of Wisconsin asking to raise electric rates in 2026 and 2027. The PSC approved notices of proceeding in each of the dockets on April 24.

According to an online report from Wisconsin Public Radio (WPR), the three utilities say they need to increase rates to upgrade aging infrastructure and to pay to build additional resources for generating energy. The investor-owned utilities also asked the PSC to approve a slight increase in each of the company's profit rate, or "return on equity" (ROE).

The PSC is expected to vote on the proposals later this year. When regulators last considered rate hikes for the three utilities — in 2023 — the three-person Commission approved lower rate hikes than the utilities requested and took steps to limit utility profits.

Alliant, which serves portions of central, eastern and south-central Wisconsin, [applied](#) to increase overall electric rates by 8.27% in 2026, and 5.61% effective in 2027, or by roughly \$201.9 million over the two years. The utility also seeks to increase its profit rate from 9.8% to 9.9%.

MGE, the state's smallest IOU, which serves the Madison area, [applied](#) to increase overall electric rates by 4.89% in 2026 and

4.53% in 2027. If approved, MGE's annual electric revenues would increase by a total of \$47.7 million in two years. The utility asked to increase its profit rate from 9.7% to 10%.

Xcel serves customers in western Wisconsin, and [applied](#) to increase overall electric rates by 11.78% in 2026 and 7.15% in 2027, or by \$150.7 million over the two years. The company also asked to increase its profit rate from 9.8% to 10%.

In Alliant's 2023 rate filing, the Commission approved an estimated 8.4% electric rate increase in 2024 and 2025 instead of the utility's requested 13.8% hike for those two years. The PSC also approved cutting Alliant's profit rate from 10% to 9.8%. Regulators also denied Alliant's request to change reimbursement for solar customers putting energy back into the grid.

For MGE, the PSC in 2023 approved an estimated 5.8% electric rate increase for 2024 and 2025. Initially, the utility requested a nearly 7.2% increase over two years. The PSC also voted to reduce the utility's profit rate from 9.8% to 9.7%.

In Xcel's 2023 case, the PSC approved a 0.1% rate increase for 2024 instead of the 4.8% hike the utility requested. Xcel also had requested a boost to its profit rate from 10% to 10.25%. The PSC instead cut the ROE to 9.8%.

In response to the filings, the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) of Wisconsin ex-

pressed hope the PSC can bring down the size of the increases because "at some point people need a break" from rising prices. CUB also will advocate to reduce the size of the profit rates.

"Customers have been overpaying in the area of profits for far too long," CUB's Executive Director told WPR. "It's time to really make sure there's balance because it's hard on customers paying their bills."

New Milwaukee alderman is proponent of municipalization

According to a recent *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* story, a candidate who won election on April 1 to fill a vacant aldermanic seat is proposing to replace We Energies and have the City of Milwaukee take over electric service. To be successful, Alex Brower's proposal would require support from enough members of the city's Common Council and Milwaukee Mayor Cavalier Johnson — hurdles that seem unlikely to be overcome.

Brower acknowledged he doesn't have the public support that would be needed to move forward, telling the newspaper that after meeting with the Mayor's Office, they were "not keen." The idea to municipalize in Milwaukee surfaces every now and then as leaders in Wisconsin's largest city look for solutions to rising costs and customer frustrations with the investor-owned utility serving nearly all of southeast Wisconsin.

Continued on page 12

Political Profiles *Continued from page 8*

Her political career began in 2018 when she was elected to the Cottage Grove Village Board. Later that year, she was appointed to the Dane County Board of Supervisors, where she served until 2024.

On her website, she said she is proud to have worked on policies to increase funding for roads and public safety, support domestic vio-

lence survivors, and push back against efforts to eliminate diversity, equity, and inclusion programs.

Outside her elected office, Ratcliff was named Ally of the Year by the Sun Prairie Colonial Club in 2024 and is an active member of the Miracle League of Dane County.

In her free time, Ratcliff enjoys gardening and reading. She currently resides with her two children in Cottage Grove. ●



Mutual Aid Hotline

When you need help, call MEUW – 24 hours a day, seven days a week – for help coordinating mutual aid assistance

1-844-MEUW-911
(1-844-638-9911)

Focus on Energy helps Wisconsin schools save energy, educate

Focus on Energy has been a transformative force for schools and students in Wisconsin, including many schools served by municipal electric utilities. By streamlining the process of energy improvements and offering substantial incentives, Focus on Energy enables schools to save money and reduce their energy consumption, benefiting both the educational environment and the community at large.

Since 2023, Focus on Energy has paid out over half a million dollars in incentives to approximately 70 K-12 schools in municipal electric utility territories. These incentives, often combined with additional utility resources, have been pivotal in helping schools undertake energy-saving projects that might otherwise be financially out of reach. The impact is evident in the significant reductions in energy costs and the enhanced learning environments resulting from these improvements.

One recent example is the [School District of Arcadia](#), which is now saving an estimated \$40,000 a year in energy costs, made possible by over \$83,000 they received from Focus on Energy in partnership with Arcadia Electric Utility for their energy-efficient upgrades. The district undertook a comprehensive HVAC upgrade, replacing old inefficient boilers with two new 90% efficient hot water condensing boilers. The district also installed variable frequency drives (VFDs) and a demand-controlled ventilation system, to optimize airflow and maintain comfort for the students and staff in the building.

Focus on Energy offers schools both financial incentives and expert guidance. Energy Advisors, which specialize in educa-

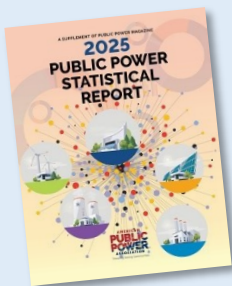
tional facilities, helps schools understand their energy usage and finds ways to save. It works with school administrators and facility management to tailor projects to each district's needs, maximizing the benefits of energy improvements and incentives. Focus on Energy offers incentives to cover a wide range of projects, from lighting upgrades to HVAC system improvements. Energy Advisors guides school districts in the type of incentives available to address their most pressing energy needs and make meaningful changes with lasting impact.

Focus also emphasizes the importance of education and community involvement. Through partnerships with organizations like the Wisconsin K-12 Energy Education Program (KEEP), Focus on Energy engages students in energy conservation efforts. Focus sponsors schools for the [Renew Our Schools](#) challenge that engages students to monitor their school's energy usage and implement strategies to reduce consumption. Schools in Cedarburg, Evansville, Mount Horeb, Muscoda, Oconomowoc, and Sun Prairie have all participated in Renew Our Schools. This experience not only teaches students about the importance of energy efficiency but also empowers them to become advocates for sustainable practices in their communities.

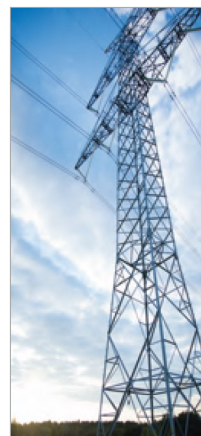
By reducing energy costs, schools can lower operating costs benefiting taxpayers or allocate more funds to educational resources and extracurricular activities, directly benefiting students. Focus on Energy aims to engage with more schools across Wisconsin to bring these benefits to more communities. For more information on how schools can better understand their energy use and identify opportunities to take control of operating costs through measurable energy-saving projects, visit focusonenergy.com. ●

MEUW provides Focus on Energy the opportunity to regularly contribute content to LIVE LINES because of the organizations' shared support of municipal utilities. Reader feedback or questions are always welcome.

Public Power Statistical Report available



The American Public Power Association (APPA) compiles a variety of data that helps to confirm the unique and valuable aspects of the more than 2,000 municipal electric utility systems across the United States. The Public Power Statistical Report is designed to help tell the “public power story” and focuses on the key graphs, tables, and data visualizations that APPA members regularly draw from to make use of all the valuable data at their fingertips — and how to appropriately benchmark their own operational data against general data sets. APPA publishes this report so that each public power utility can play a role in understanding and communicating the key aspects of how public power is distinguished from — or similar to — the rest of the electric utility industry. Click on the image above to download the 2025 version.



Not-For-Profit Pricing, Reliable Inventory

One of the Midwest's largest
full-line distributors of
high-voltage electrical products

RESCO

2250 Pinehurst Dr.
Middleton, WI 53562

800-356-9370
resco1.com

Experience the fun and community of public power

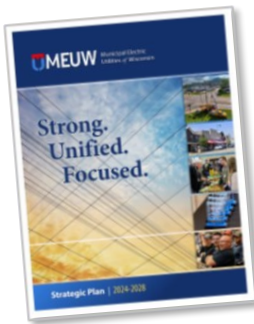
Communities across Wisconsin that own and operate their municipal electric utility have so much to offer. Show your support and take part in the fun this summer. Here's a list of community events in our member communities for June, July, and August:

June 1-8	Rice Lake	Rice Lake Aquafest	July 11-13	Trempealeau	Catfish Days
June 6-7	Kaukauna	Farmapalooza IV	July 12	Plymouth	Mill Street Festival
June 6-7	Shawano	Shawano Sundrop Dayz	July 12	Shawano	Shawano Fest
June 6-8	Elkhorn	Bacon Fest	July 16-20	Trempealeau	Trempealeau County Fair
June 12-15	Mount Horeb	Mount Horeb Summer Frolic	July 17-19	Cadott	Rock Fest
June 13-14	Eagle River	Up North Beerfest & Premier Beer Night	July 18-20	Gresham	Festival of the Arts
June 13-14	New Glarus	New Glarus Polkafest	July 19	Argyle	Christmas in July
June 13	Prairie du Sac	Night Market	July 19-20	Manitowoc	Wisconsin Sand Sculpting Festival
June 14-15	Cuba City	Cuba City Truck & Tractor Pull	July 19-20	Mount Horeb	Mount Horeb Art Fair
June 14	New Glarus	Beer, Bacon and Cheese Festival	July 19	New Glarus	Blues, Brews, & Food Truck Festival
June 14	Richland Center	Dairy Days and Rodeo Parade	July 24-26	Marshfield	Hub City Days
June 14	Sturgeon Bay	Steel Bridge Day Celebration	July 24-27	Waunakee	Waunafest
June 18-22	Reedsburg	Reedsburg Butter Fest	July 25-26	Manitowoc	Mid-Mod Manitowoc
June 18-22	Elroy	Elroy Fair	July 25-27	Two Rivers	Snowfest
June 19-22	Wis. Rapids	Cranberry Blossom Fest	July 26	Black River Falls	Karner Blue Butterfly Festival
June 20-21	Manitowoc	Metrojam	July 29-Aug. 3	Black River Falls	Jackson County Fair
June 21	Sauk City	Summer Solstice Festival	July 30-Aug. 3	Cedarburg	Ozaukee County Fair
June 21	Stoughton	Taste of Stoughton	Aug. 1-2	Spooner	Jack Pine Savage Days
June 26-28	Cadott	Hoofbeat Country Fest	Aug. 5-7	Cadott	Wisconsin Farm Technology Days
June 26-29	Lake Mills	Town and Country Days	Aug. 5	Oconomowoc	Kids' Fest
June 27-28	Plymouth	Cheese Capital Festival	Aug. 7-9	Arcadia	Ashley for the Arts
June 27-29	Waupun	Celebrate Waupun	Aug. 7-10	Bloomer	Community Fair and Parade
June 28	Brodhead	Family Fest	Aug. 7-10	Eagle River	Vilas County Fair
June 28-29	Cedarburg	Cedarburg Strawberry Festival	Aug. 7-10	Kiel	Kiel Community Picnic
July 2	Medford	Medford Celebrates	Aug. 8-10	Algoma	Algoma Shanty Days
July 2-6	Stoughton	Stoughton Fair	Aug. 8-9	Black Earth	Black Earth Field Days
July 3-4	Cumberland	Fourth of July Spectacular	Aug. 8-10	Brodhead	Covered Bridge Days
July 3-4	Menasha	Community Fest	Aug. 8-10	Medford	Back in Time Tractor Show
July 3-4	Shullsburg	Shullsburg 4th of July Celebration	Aug. 9-10	Bangor	Fun Daze
July 4	Eagle River	Fourth of July Celebration	Aug. 9	New London	Rock'n Corn Festival
July 4, 4-6	Manitowoc	Fourth on the Shore, Subfest	Aug. 13-17	Sturgeon Bay	Door County Fair
July 4-5	Pardeeville	Fourth of July Celebration	Aug. 13-17	Sun Prairie	Sweet Corn Festival
July 4	Princeton	Independence Day Celebration	Aug. 13-14	Waupun	Waupun Truck N Show
July 4-5	Sauk City	Fire on the River	Aug. 14-16	La Farge	LarryFest
July 4	Sturgeon Bay	Fourth of July Celebration	Aug. 14-17	Whitehall	Beef and Dairy Days
July 4	Wisconsin Dells	4th of July Extravaganza	Aug. 16	Algoma	Soar on the Shore
July 5	Waterloo	Fourth of July Celebration	Aug. 16	Mazomanie	Gandy Dancer Bluegrass Festival
July 6	Sheboygan Falls	Ducktona 500 Family Festival	Aug. 16-17	Oconomowoc	Festival of the Arts
July 9-13	Elkhorn	Elkhorn RibFest	Aug. 16	Slinger	Slinger Slamfest
July 9	Hartford	Maxwell Street Day	Aug. 16	Stoughton	Coffee Break Festival
July 9-13	Jefferson	Jefferson County Fair	Aug. 19-24	Marshfield	Central Wisconsin State Fair
July 10-13	Lodi	Lodi Agricultural Fair	Aug. 20-24	Manitowoc	Manitowoc County Fair
July 10-13	New Richmond	2025 Fun Fest	Aug. 21-25	Cumberland	Rutabaga Festival
July 10-13	River Falls	River Falls Days	Aug. 22-24	Florence	Florence County Fair
July 10-12	Spooner	Spooner Rodeo: A Wild Ride for All Ages	Aug. 23	Merrillan	Merrillan Christmas Tree Festival
July 11-12	New Lisbon	Wa Du Shuda Days	Aug. 27-31	Shawano	Shawano County Fair
			Aug. 29-30	Prairie du Sac	Wisconsin State Cow Chip Throw & Festival
			Aug. 30-31	Benton	Benton Labor Day Celebration
			Aug. 30-31	Menasha	Fox Jazz Fest

MEUW Board meets to continue focus on executing Strategic Plan

Trade associations like MEUW are not unlike any living, breathing organism — growing, adapting, and evolving. Similarly, they face challenges, weather storms, celebrate wins, and — with the right care and support — thrive.

When the MEUW Board of Directors met in person on April 8, the focus was on executing the association's 2024–2028



Strategic Plan. The same group had gathered late last summer to refresh MEUW's mission, vision, and strategic priorities. Among those priorities is an effort to maximize the value of membership in MEUW and engage all members to elevate public power.

With a number of action items included in the refreshed plan, two ad hoc committees provided reports on the

work they've been doing to help execute the strategy. One committee is focused on developing a three-year member engagement campaign to foster higher levels of participation and a second is developing targeted advocacy training and outreach.

The plan's timeframe coincides with the 100th anniversary of MEUW's founding. Thanks to a committed and engaged Board of Directors, MEUW is moving purposefully into the future — strong, unified, and focused. Members can expect to receive regular updates on the strategy work. Comments and suggestions are always welcomed.

The updated strategy document is available for download [here](#). ●

Wisconsin Utility News Digest *Continued from page 9*

We Energies proposes special rate for data centers

According to a *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* report, Wisconsin's largest investor-owned utility has proposed a new electric rate designed specifically for very large customers, primarily energy-intensive data centers, like a Microsoft facility proposed for Mount Pleasant.

In a March 31 filing with state regulators, We Energies requested a new electric rate that would have nine billing determinants. One of them is an administrative charge that includes a fixed cost of \$213,118 per billing period plus the variable cost of \$305 per megawatt of Maximum Customer Demand per billing period. The utility said the monthly charge is designed to cover the full personnel and overhead costs dedicated to serving any new VLC (very large customer).

Consumer groups called for a "robust analysis and a transparent process" to evaluate the proposal.

LIVELines Classifieds

MEUW is pleased to promote job openings with its member utilities across Wisconsin. New positions are regularly added to our website — check them out [here](#) or use your smartphone to scan the QR code below. Here are some current opportunities available:

Oconto Falls Municipal Utilities — [Utility Manager](#)

Kaukauna Utilities

[Mechanical Technician](#)

[Finance and Administration Director](#)

City of Fennimore

[Director of Public Works](#)

[Journeyman Electric Lineworker](#)

When your utility is hiring, be sure to email the job posting to office@meuw.org.



THE OKOGUARD[®] ADVANTAGE

Introduced by Okonite, with nearly 50 years of service history - Okoguard EPR cable have become the standard of unequalled excellence in power cables

- ✓ SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE
- ✓ OUTSTANDING RELIABILITY
- ✓ MORE FLEXIBILITY
- ✓ ALL EPR INSULATION SYSTEM
- ✓ NO TREING
- ✓ TRIPLE TANDEM EXTRUSION

THE OKONITE COMPANY

Okonite Cables...A Higher Standard!

16200 Highway 7 Lower Level, Minnetonka, MN 55345 • 763.432.3818 Fax: 763.432.3811 minneapolis@okonite.com

"THE TRANSFORMER PEOPLE"[™]

T&R ELECTRIC

WE BUY, SELL, RENT AND DELIVER

PO BOX 180, COLMAN, SD 57017
DIAL DIRECT FREE 800-843-7994
<http://www.t-r.com>

SAVE THE DATE

ACCOUNTING & CUSTOMER SERVICE SEMINAR

Sept. 24
Mauston