

SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION FOR

Smart Fault Indicators

The Electric Utilities Department recommends a single source vendor, Safegrid, for smart fault indicators. Justification for this recommendation are as follows:

- Safegrid fault indicators have a predictive algorithm which can warn utilities of potential fault before they can occur. This justifies Safegrid Intelligent Grid System for sole source procurement under the lack of performance competition exception found in G.S. 143-129(e)(6), as they are currently the only supplier of this technology commercially available.
 - The use of this predictive technology will improve the System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI) for the Town's distribution network by identifying components that have otherwise undetectable imminent faults. Once identified these components can be replaced without an outage in many cases and will reduce the amount of labor and materials needed to repair damage after a fault.
- The Safegrid Intelligent Grid System is also able to use its machine learning algorithms to more accurately locate and report the initiating point of a fault rather than giving a general notification, or a simple visible indication that a particular sensor has sensed a fault current as is the case with traditional fault indicators. This allows repair crews to reduce the time it takes to restore power by reducing the time spent searching for the source of a fault improving the Town's System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI).

