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SENT BY EMAIL

May 30, 2025

Columbus Utilities
Dalton Hiley
950 Maple Avenue
Columbus, WI 53925
dhiley@columbusutilitieswi.com

Subject: Substation #3 Transformer repair
C09-25J

Dear Dalton:

I recommend you accept the attached proposal from Transfluid Services, Inc. for \$20,100 to dry out and re-seal the Substation #3 transformer.

During a recent low voltage bushing replacement, we observed water inside the transformer due to a leak in the manhole cover gasket. The water may fall harmlessly to the bottom once the transformer is turned on and the oil starts circulating, but it could also short out something and cause a failure resulting in a replacement costing close to \$1 million. This investment is cheap insurance to prevent such a failure. You need this transformer back in service this summer.

The proposal price reflects a 25% discount they are offering, as this is their second visit to do this work. Their first visit was paid by MJ Electric, who took responsibility for water entry due to a part they forgot to install on the high voltage bushings. We can't blame MJ Electric for needing this subsequent work.

During that visit another leak was discovered in the low voltage bushing which prevented Transfluid from sealing the tank. Transfluid could not have known the manhole gasket didn't re-seal on the manhole cover because the bushing leak masked that problem. Transfluid is being kind in discounting their services for having missed this on the first visit. They are coming prepared to install a new gasket on this visit.

The work is required due to the age and condition of your transformer. While this seems to be another in a litany of problems with getting this transformer back into service, there is every reason to believe this work will result in extending the life of this transformer. The final work will occur next fall/winter as the new replacement low voltage bushings you recently approved arrive and are installed.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Transfluid has tentatively scheduled this work for June 25th, pending your approval.

Sincerely,

FORSTER ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce W. Beth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'B' and 'B'.

Bruce W. Beth, P.E.

bbeth@forstereng.com

Copy: Matt Amundson mamundson@columbuswi.gov
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Attachments: Transfluid proposal FEE-WI-1B-250619 5-28-25