



"Excellence in electrical distribution design since 1981"

SENT BY EMAIL

June 9, 2025

Columbus Utilities
Michelle Kaltenberg, Business Manager
950 Maple Ave.
Columbus, WI 53925

Subject: Columbus Utilities, Multiple-Year Underground Electric Facility Installation
Unit Pricing Contract, C09-25B, Spec 4219.

Dear Michelle:

We have analyzed and reviewed the bids received for the Columbus Utilities, Multiple-Year Underground Electric Facility Installation Unit Pricing Contract. Seven contractors submitted bids on this project. The contractors were J&R Underground LLC., MP Systems INC., Michels Underground Cable INC., Kochs Telecommunications Service INC., Corevac LLC., Intercon Construction INC., and Jolma Utilities LLC.

As you know, MP Systems INC. provided a clarification and exclusions, as well as an addendum that proposes change to the contract documents. Some of the proposed changes are:

- Not guaranteeing a fixed cost on units that require the contractor to supply materials. (Clarification and Exclusion & Addendum)
- Proposing changes to excuse performance that is different than the contract documents. (Addendum)
- Proposing changes to the proper performance of the services. (Addendum)

Because of these proposed changes to the contract documents by MP Systems INC. we would recommend changing the recommended contractor.

The next responsible bidder is J&R Underground LLC. J&R Underground has a long outstanding history working with many municipal electric utilities. Also, Forster Electrical Engineering has very successfully worked with J&R Underground on small to very large projects. Columbus Utilities has a positive prior working relationship with J&R Underground. When emergency situations have aroused, J&R Underground has dropped everything to come in aid. Though J&R Underground have proposed some changes to the contract documents. We feel that those changes are minor and that the

benefits of working with J&R Underground with the Underground Unit Price Contract is worth the change in recommendation.

To determine the lowest responsible bidder, we analyzed the bids based on units for potential projects that Columbus Utilities could construct. The bid documents clearly state that the owner makes no guarantee of any work to the contractor that is awarded this contract. When Columbus Utilities has a project that they intend to construct using this pricing, a Task Order between the utility and the awarded bidder will be created clearly detailing what units will be used, the quantity for each unit, and the total cost of the Task Order.

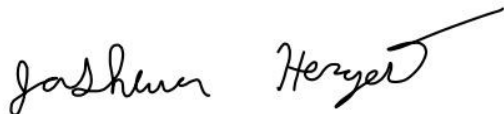
After our analysis and communication with Columbus Utilities we have determined that J&R Underground LLC., is the evaluated responsible low bidder and recommend that you award contract C09-25B, Spec. 4219, to them. J&R Underground has worked successfully with many other municipal electric utilities in southcentral Wisconsin. They are excellent contractors with experienced crews that do exceptional work.

Please note that there will not be an 'official' contract amount as the contract price will not be established until Task Order(s) are created for the project(s) that will be constructed.

If you have any questions, please let me know. Once Columbus Utilities has approved this contractor, please let us know and we will begin to send the contract out for signatures.

Sincerely,

FORSTER ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, INC.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joshua M. Hergert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Joshua M. Hergert

Copy: Bruce Beth, P.E., Jacob Feltz, Paige Younggren