



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: August 26, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a motion to approve the Scope of Work with HDR Engineering for an amount not to exceed \$106,059 for the Electric System Study and authorize the General Manager to sign the Agreement.

PREPARED BY: Julie Kennedy, General Manager

BACKGROUND:

In May, the Commission approved a Master Services Agreement with HDR Engineering. Since then, HDR has been providing day-to-day assistance on operational inquiries, such as support for switch settings. Now, we are bringing forward the first of the comprehensive studies they will be conducting for us.

The Electric System Study is the first in a series of three much-needed analyses that will equip GRPU line crews with the information necessary to perform their jobs effectively and maintain the reliability of the GRPU system. The next study will focus on fuse and relay coordination, followed by an arcflash study.

These studies are essential tools for ensuring our electric system remains robust and reliable. The Electric and IS staff will be actively involved in this project, particularly from a data needs and model calibration perspective, working collaboratively with HDR to provide system information and support.

The Electric System Study will evaluate GRPU's existing electric distribution system, including feeder and substation constraints; analyze current and projected capacities and reliability, accounting for future load additions over a 10-year horizon, develop long-range plans and planning-level budgets to guide system upgrades and improvements, and provide actionable insights for budgeting, planning, and maintaining reliable service.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Scope of Work with HDR Engineering for an amount not to exceed \$106,059 for the Electric System Study and authorize the General Manager to sign the Agreement.