



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: July 23, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a motion to approve change order #1 in the amount of \$8641.54 for ELCP-00-0717, Airport Road Electric Underground Installation Project.

PREPARED BY: Chad Troumbly, Electric Department Manager

BACKGROUND:

During construction activities on the Airport Road Electric Underground Installation Project, the contractor struck an energized electric line while performing excavation work.

Prior to excavation, the contractor requested and received an underground utility locates in accordance with standard procedure. However, the locate incorrectly identified an abandoned line that ran parallel to the energized line, which led the contractor to believe the area was clear. The abandoned line is not labeled on the utility map, and its proximity to the live line created confusion during the locate process. As a result, the active line was not accurately marked, and the contractor unknowingly made contact with the energized conductor. Fortunately, no injuries occurred, but the incident required immediate response and repair work to ensure public and worker safety and to restore service continuity. The necessary repair work and related costs were outside the scope of the original contract, resulting in this proposed change order. GRPU staff have reviewed the situation and confirmed that the contractor followed required procedures and was not at fault. GRPU is also discussing changes to construction activities related to abandoning in place lines to prevent this issue in the future.

The change order includes costs for equipment and materials associated with the repair. Staff recommend approval to address the additional work and maintain the project schedule.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve change order #1 in the amount of \$8641.54 for ELCP-00-0717, Airport Road Electric Underground Installation Project.