

**ROCHELLE CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM MEMO  
REGULAR MEETING**

**SUBJECT:** Waiver of Competitive Bidding – Underground Cable Procurement

**Staff Contact:** Blake Toliver, Superintendent of Electric Operations

**Summary:**

Staff is requesting authorization to waive competitive bidding requirements for the purchase of underground medium-voltage power cable for the Centerpoint substation and upcoming electric system infrastructure projects. Multiple cable vendors and distributors have advised that formally bidding this material would require them to hold pricing for extended periods, resulting in higher quoted costs due to copper market volatility, production scheduling, and risk premiums.

Budgetary pricing has been obtained from multiple vendors and distributors through cooperative purchasing contracts and direct quotations. The attached pricing spreadsheet outlines current available pricing, totaling approximately \$1,903,664 for the required quantities of 35kV and 15kV underground cable. Vendors have indicated that these prices are subject to change and that delaying procurement to complete a formal bid process would likely increase total project costs and extend delivery timelines.

Approving this waiver will allow staff to procure cable at currently available market pricing, reduce exposure to future commodity increases, and ensure timely completion of critical electric infrastructure projects.

**Funding Sources:**

Source:	Budgeted Amount:	Proposed Expenditure:
Electric Capital Fund	10,900,000	\$1,903,664

**Strategic Plan Goal Application:** Infrastructure Effectiveness and Improvement

**Recommendation:** Approve a Waiver of Competitive Bidding – Underground Cable Procurement