

EWEB Board Consent Calendar Request

For Contract Awards, Renewals, and Increases

The Board is being asked to approve a new master product and services agreement with **Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories (SEL)** for **Generation and Substation Communication Systems**.

Board Meeting Date:	February 3, 2026
Project Name/Contract #:	Generation and Substation Communication Systems / 26-004-GS
Manager:	Scott Milovich Ext. 7408
Executive Officer:	Karen Kelley Ext. 7153

Contract Amount:

Original Contract Amount:	\$2,500,000
Additional \$ Previously Approved:	\$0
Spend over last approval:	\$0
Amount this Request:	\$0
% Increase over last approval:	NA
Resulting Cumulative Total:	\$2,500,000 (Over 4-years)

Contracting Method:

Method of Solicitation:	Direct Negotiation
If applicable, basis for exemption:	Sole Source SS-514
Term of Agreement:	Initial term is two (2) years, with additional 2-year extensions
Option to Renew?	Yes, annually up to 4 years total
Approval for purchases <i>"as needed"</i> :	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Proposals/Bids Received (Range):	NA
Selection Basis:	Direct Negotiation after surveying the market

Narrative:

Operational Requirement and Alignment with Strategic Plan

SEL products have been invaluable in maintaining communication between Generation and Substation facilities to detect and isolate system disturbances. This communications protocol/equipment is how the relays in each of the substations communicate to open breakers when power needs to be interrupted. SEL has an excellent warranty because they want to know how their equipment fails and will repair or replace equipment that has issues. The SEL equipment is the standard in the industry for performance and reliability.

The project to replace EWEBs substation teleprotection equipment became necessary as a result of GE unexpectedly discontinuing the system that EWEB had used since the late 90's. The SONET and T1 communications equipment are a critical component of substation reliability and public safety. There are no backward-compatible hardware platforms available, which means it is not possible to modify existing substations or provide new equipment when substations are rebuilt. The entire network must be replaced.

Contracted Goods or Services

A master purchase agreement will provide EWEB with the complete replacement equipment (SONET and T1

channel bank system), factory configured and tested before being shipped to EWEB. EWEB Communication and Controls technicians will perform the installation and provide acceptance testing along with EWEB's Relay technicians. SEL will provide initial training and remote technical support for as long as the equipment is in operation.

A master purchase agreement will also allow future orders on protective relays used in Substation and Generation facilities, substation remote terminal units (RTU) that are used for indication/control of substations for EWEB's Dispatch Center, communications equipment for protective relays, and miscellaneous communication cables.

Peak Measure, the authorized distributor, will serve as a Value-Added Reseller (VAR) for these purchases with SEL.

Purchasing Process

In October 2025, staff entered into discussions with Schweizer Engineering Laboratories to determine the scope of goods and services required for a complete replacement of the now discontinued GE JMUX and T1MX teleprotection equipment. Upon further review of past orders with SEL, and discussions with department leads, it was determined that it would be beneficial for EWEB to enter into a master goods and services agreement to cover all the products and services SEL provides as it extends to Generation and Substation facilities.

Prior Contract Activities

EWEB Contract	Project Name (Description)	Board Approved	Project Duration (Start to Close)	Original Amount	Approved/Amended Amount to Date (Total)	Reason Code
PO 43727	Upgraded RTACs for CP and TB Plant	NA	9/23/25 – 11/24/25	\$11,135	\$11,135	
PO 43427	Spare Parts from SEL for JMUX	NA	9/15/25 – 11/3/25	\$10,741	\$10,741	
PO 41374	SEL Comm Parts for Danebo Substation Project	NA	3/19/25 – 4/28/25	\$29,040	\$29,040	

Reason Code: AM = Additional Materials, AW = Additional Work, EW= Emergency Work, SD = Staff Directed, UC = Unforeseen Conditions, Other

ACTION REQUESTED:

Management requests the Board approve a master product and services agreement with Schweizer Engineering Laboratories (SEL) for Generation and Substation Communication Systems. Approximately \$1.3 million was planned for these goods and services in the 2026 Electric Telecom Capital budget of \$3.2 million. Variances will be managed within the budget process and Board policy.

BUDGET CATEGORY: Electric Telecom Capital, Type 2, JMUX Replacement