



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: City Utilities - Water and Light

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: August 18, 2025

Re: Supplemental Council Memo: Amending Chapter 27 of the City Code as it relates to electric utility rates – 2015 Electric Ballot Capital Project Status Update

Executive Summary

A supplemental council memo has been prepared to provide a project status update on the 2015 Electric Ballot Capital Projects

Discussion

Staff is providing the City Council with a project status update for the 2015 Electric Ballot Capital Projects. Staff have provided the following information below:

1. 2015 Bond Proposal approved by voters
2. Electric Bond Sale and Authority
3. Electric projects with bond money and notes
4. Construction project photos

1. 2015 Bond Proposal approved by voters:

Replacement and upgrade of existing infrastructure	\$10,350,000
New transmission and substation project	\$36,150,000
System modernization	\$4,900,000
System Expansion	\$6,600,000
Financing/ Bond expenses	\$5,100,000

2. Electric bond sale and authority:

2015 Bond Authorization	\$63,100,000
2015 Bond Sale Projects	\$31,000,000
2015 Bond Sale Expenses	\$2,215,000
Remaining Bond Authority	\$29,885,000

In 2015, voters approved bonds for replacement and upgrade of existing infrastructure, transmission and substation work, system modernization and system expansion. The majority



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of the first bond sale was used to replace and upgrade the electric infrastructure including upgrading substations to account for growth. The dollar amount shown in the project table below is only the bond funds appropriated to the project and does not include any cash funds that may also have been appropriated to the project. Bond funds spent include money encumbered for equipment or a contract. The notes identify project status if there are bond funds remaining to be spent. Bond funds that are not planned to be spent soon, may get reallocated to other projects. There is more than \$29 million available in bond authority that can be used for a transmission line or other capital project. Black & Veatch Corporation is expected to return an updated cost estimate for the transmission project in October 2025.

3. Electric projects with bond money:

Project Description	Total Bond Funds Spent or Encumbered to Date	Bond Funds Remaining	Notes
Distribution Transformers and Capacitors	\$2,550,000		Annual project. All bond monies spent.
Replacement of Existing Transmission	\$500,000		Annual project. All bond monies spent.
Replacement of Existing Underground	\$1,000,000		Annual project. All bond monies spent.
Replacement of Existing Overhead	\$3,350,000		Annual project. All bond monies spent.
Replace Circuit Breakers	\$500,000		Annual project. All bond monies spent.
Harmony Transformer & Switchgear	\$950,000		Complete
Mill Creek 161/13.8 Substation	\$1,661,397	\$61,635	Bond monies spent on design work. Transformers being used at Bolstad substation upgrade. Reallocating remaining bond money to other substation upgrades.
Mill Creek, Grindstone and Perche Creek Interconnection	\$1,128,667	\$3,421,333	Bond monies spent on design work. Council placed a hold on the project in 2018. Updated cost estimate expected Fall 2025
Substation Upgrades Perche & Grindstone	\$40,162		Bond monies spent on design work.



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Underground Distribution in Transmission Corridor	\$4,432		Bond monies spent on design work
Substation Feeders Reconfiguration	\$214,855		Bond monies spent on design work
Power Plant Sub Upgrades	\$255,749	\$1,244,251	Hold due to difficulty acquiring property.
Natural Gas Boiler 8	\$1,900,000		Complete
CEC Distributed Controls	\$1,500,000		Complete
Landfill Gas Generator 4	\$1,600,000		Complete
Residential Expansion	\$450,000		Complete
Replace Underground Keene & Lansing	\$205,000		Complete
EMS Upgrade	\$50,000		Complete
Power Plant Control Room	\$45,000		Complete
Replace Landfill Generator Engine	\$500,000		Complete
Moore's Lake Restoration	\$2,300,000		Near complete. All bond monies spent.
Hinkson Transformer & Switchgear	\$600,000		Complete
Perche Substation Transformer	\$1,100,000		Construction status: Switchgear arrived June 2025. Transformer to arrive late August 2025.
Perche 161 KV Bus Reconfiguration	\$831,620	\$368,380	Construction Status: Bus materials arrived August 2025
Bolstad T1 & T2 Switchgear & Transformer	\$900,787	\$231,586	Construction begins late 2025 or early 2026
Westbury Subdivision & Hulen Substation	\$66,500	\$568,645	Construction in 2027
Bolstad Feeder Reconfiguration		\$900,000	Construction in 2026
Total	\$24,204,170	\$6,795,830	\$31,000,000 2015 Bond Sale



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Switchgear Installation at Perche Substation for new transformer.



Perche 161 KV Bus Reconfiguration materials on site.



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Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: N/A

Long-Term Impact: N/A

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Infrastructure, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
08/04/2025	B184-25 Amending Chapter 27 of the City Code as it relates to electric utility rates.

Suggested Council Action

Supplemental information. Recommend approval of the ordinance.