INDIANOLA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
IMU
Electric • Communications • Water

Request for Proposal (RFP)
For
Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)

Issued by:
Indianola Municipal Utilities (IMU)

Bid Mailing Address:
Indianola Municipal Utilities
c/o Mike Metcalf, AMI RFP
210 West 2nd Ave
Indianola, Iowa 50125

Bid Drop Off Location:
Indianola Municipal Utilities
210 West 2nd Ave.
Indianola, Iowa 50125

Bid Email Address:
mmetcalf@indianola.com

All proposals must be submitted in person, by mail or by email.
No later than 10:00 am
On February 27, 2026

LATE RFP's WILL BE REJECTED

Further information or questions regarding this RFP may be directed to:
Mike Metcalf – Electric Director
Email: mmetcalf@indianola.com
Phone: 515-962-5305

Indianola Municipal Utilities (IMU) is requesting bids for an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system. The project would begin in July 2026 and be completed by June 2029.

IMU serves approximately 7,307 electric meters and 6,240 water meters over an area around 12 square miles.

List of current meters in service:

Electric:

- 1S 9
- 2S 6,443
- 2S Solar 40
- 2S TOU 25
- 2S 320 12
- 3S 4
- 4S 87
- 5S 4
- 6S 28
- 9S 130
- 12S 432
- 16S 85
- 16S 320 1
- 36S 3

IMU Electric Department staff would replace the AMR electric meters with the AMI electric meters over a 3-year period.

Water:

- 5/8” 4,204
- 3/4” 1,509
- 1” 286
- 1 ½” 65
- 2” 154
- 3” 18
- 4” 4

IMU Water Department would like an alternate bid to upgrade the 5/8” and 3/4” water meters by a contractor.

- Meters would need to be disc meters with 100W ERT’s.
- Approximately 1,688 5/8” – 11 ¾” LL
- Approximately 490 3/4” – 13 ¾” LL

The successful vendor must clearly state and demonstrate its ability to implement an AMI system that includes electric and water meters. Vendor bids need to clearly state all costs and detailed information. IMU reserves the right to reject any proposals that cannot meet these requirements.

Minimum Requirements of the AMI Provider/Vendor:

- Demonstrate its commitment to the municipal utility market.
- Provide information on the number of AMI deployments and the number of endpoints.
- Provide information on the percentage that AMI is of their portfolio.

Minimum Requirements of the AMI System:

- Must be able to reuse Itron AMR electric and water meters on their AMI system without full replacement of all devices to allow IMU to complete the deployment over an anticipated three-year period.
- Vendor must provide an RF Mesh system so all AMI devices can read and retransmit all Itron ERT meters remaining in the system.
- Be an approved vendor of Itron that is allowed to read and integrate their devices.
- Have an agreement with Itron that allows for reading and integration of their technology into the AMI vendors solution.
- Read and report the Itron NIM messaging protocol.
- AMI vendor's system must be able to reuse the current Itron interface to the utility's billing system.
- Must have experience working with IMU's billing system which is eLation.
- System shall not require licensed communication frequencies.
- Must be able to deliver internal data from the meter to the head end and be able to do batched delivery at set intervals.
- Must have intelligent endpoints with distributed computing capabilities.
- The system shall use LANs.
- The LANs shall be self-building and self-healing with the electric meters acting as the LAN repeater for other meters.
- Must maintain time synchronization for all meters, nodes and other devices within the network.
- Shall provide time-stamp capabilities.
- All AMI meters must be uniquely identified in the network.
- Residential electric meters shall provide a minimum of 60-minute meter reads that are pushed to the head-end hourly.
- System must be able to provide on-demand readings as needed by IMU staff.
- Electric meters need to be able to monitor and report voltage at every interval and report the data in a manner that allows IMU to react to the information.
- The system shall support two-way communication.
- Must be able to demonstrate the ability to report outages within 2 minutes.
- Must be able to demonstrate the ability to restore 90%-meter communication within 5 minutes.

- Must be able to support remote disconnecting and reconnecting on a 200 and 320 amp residential electric meters.
- Communication module must be based on an industry standard computing platform.
- Polyphase AMI electric meters shall deliver power quality information to the head-end at least once per hour.
- Meters must be able to report outages and restorations in real time.
- System shall support the transmission of DNP3 protocol messages over the network.
- Endpoint hardware must have at least 3-years of proven performance in the field.
- Quoted communication hardware must be currently deployed at municipal utilities with under 100,000 customers.
- Vendor shall provide ongoing system support, which would include an on-call account manager.
- The system must enable the collection of data from every device, every protocol and distribution of that data to applications as required.
- The network shall provide hardware for socket-based collection of data, including power quality and meter data.
- The network shall provide socket-based hardware, that where required, provides the ability to reach behind the meter with a utility-managed standard communication protocol to DERs such as EV chargers, solar inverters, etc.
- The network shall provide the ability, where required, to collect hourly or daily reads from multiple manufacturers' endpoints over multiple protocols leveraging the same fixed network.
- Ability to mount collectors on existing IMU infrastructures that are eye appealing to the utility and public.
- All transmission from collectors to the head-end will be done over IMU owned fiber facilities.
- Head-end hardware would be at IMU facilities and not cloud based.

IMU's responsibilities:

- Obtain access to mount AMI network equipment as needed.
- Installation of AMI meters.
- Provide backhaul communications from the collector through IMU's fiber system.
- Assist in identifying locations to mount network equipment in the field.

Vendor Responsibilities:

- Train IMU staff and/or contractor on retrofitting water meters.
- Train IMU staff on installation of network elements.
- Conduct system acceptance testing.
- Design AMI network to meet outlined requirements.
- Provide smart meters and AMI modules for retrofit as applicable.
- Provide secure communications within the AMI communications network, including local and wide area networks, for AMI functionalities.
- Be able to upload readings into Itron MVRS for billing.

- Provide and provision the AMI network management system.
- Provide training on the AMI network management system.
- Provide implementation support (troubleshooting, network provisioning, other)
- Secure delivery of meter reading data into an appropriate database(s).
- Support interfaces to other utility applications.
- Perform propagation studies as required.
- Complete installation of network elements as outlined by the respondents' design.
- Have support staff available to be at IMU to support the installation before, during and after.

Background and experience:

- Provide vendor name, address, contact, phone and web page.
- Provide product name(s).
- Provide experience and references.