



Crews can install ERMCO transformers using existing tools and procedures, reducing setup and outage times.

- **Repair and Lifecycle Cost Efficiency:** Maintaining a uniform transformer fleet reduces spare-parts complexity, warehouse stocking levels, and lifecycle costs through simplified maintenance and asset interchangeability.

### **Experience with Open-Market Solicitations**

Following the expiration of the six-year contract with ERMCO, PWC pursued multiple open-market solicitations in an effort to evaluate competitive options and ensure market fairness:

- **Bid No. PWC2223024** – Single-Phase and Three-Phase Padmount Distribution Transformers, Contract Calendar Year 2023 (January 2023): Units were delivered and issues were discovered following installation. There are ongoing manufacturer performance and safety concerns, and the transformers currently do not meet PWC specifications. The manufacturer is continuing efforts to repair and replace quality and performance standards.
- **Bid No. PWC2223025** – Transformers Contract Calendar Year 2024 (January 2023): Terminated after award due to vendor default and delivery of nonconforming transformers that failed to meet PWC specifications.
- **Bid No. PWC2324061** – Distribution Transformers, Three-Phase Padmounts (March 2024): Canceled after award due to performance and communication concerns, including failure by the awarded vendor to provide adequate assurance of performance and confirmation of authorized representation.
- **Bid No. PWC2526016** – Distribution Transformers, Three-Phase Padmounts (August 2025): Currently recommended for rejection of all bids after receiving 17 submittals with inconsistent pricing, missing drawings, and non-compliant technical information.

Across all four solicitations, PWC's Engineering and Construction teams encountered recurring challenges, including incomplete or inconsistent bid submissions, difficulty validating technical compliance, and field installation issues with non-standard transformer configurations. These efforts have demonstrated that competitive solicitations have not yielded reliable or technically consistent outcomes comparable to ERMCO's products.

The complexities of evaluating and deploying transformers from multiple manufacturers have also created operational inefficiencies, extended procurement timelines, and introduced potential safety and compatibility risks for field crews. Standardization with ERMCO continues to offer proven reliability, safety, and efficiency advantages that support PWC's operational continuity and cost management objectives.