

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: University of Michigan Hospitals and Health Centers
Emergency Power Project

Action

Requested: Project Approval

Background:

Electricity for the Hospitals and Health Centers is provided primarily by Detroit Edison. The power demands range from 14 megawatts in the winter months to approximately 17.5 megawatts during the summer season. In addition to the primary power supply, there are several emergency generators used in the event of a power outage. Currently, these generators can supply up to 4.82 megawatts to maintain critical patient care functions in the event of a total loss of electricity.


Given the potential for a power disruption, and the significant difference between primary power demand and emergency generator capacity, the emergency power distribution system for the on-site health care facilities was placed under review, including consulting support provided by the engineering firm of Ayres, Lewis, Norris and May, Inc. This review included an assessment of the emergency power equipment functions and the complement of available power to support essential patient care functions when required.

The review of the system led to a set of recommendations including the purchase and installation of an additional emergency generator within University Hospital. This generator would have capacity for 2 megawatts, resulting in an emergency power complement of approximately 7 megawatts in the event of a power outage. In addition, it is proposed that the load shedding control system and emergency switchgear within University Hospital be replaced and upgraded. These actions would permit the distribution of additional power across all on-site health care facilities and provide additional capacity to support the essential components of the patient care operations if the regular power supply were lost. The proposed actions are prudent under normal operating circumstances, and will provide additional assurance to protect from potential Y2K disruptions.

The estimated project costs are \$1.7 million. Funding will be provided from Hospitals and Health Centers' reserves. The installation project should be complete by the end of 1999.

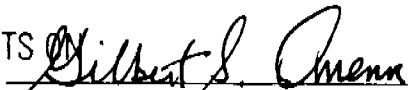
We recommend the Regents approve the Emergency Power Project.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert Kasdin
Executive Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

APPROVED BY THE REGENTS



Gilbert S. Omenn
Executive Vice President
and Chief Executive Officer,
University of Michigan Health System

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