

AGENDA



Thursday, November 8, 2007

**Austin Water Utility
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 4**

Subject: Authorize execution of a construction contract with T. MORALES CO. ELECTRIC & CONTROLS, LTD (MBE/FH) Florence, TX, for the Hornsby Bend WWTP Gas Detection System - Rebid project in the amount of \$283,000 plus a contingency of \$28,300, for a total not to exceed contract amount of \$311,300.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital Budget of the Austin Water Utility.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Joe B. Smith, 972-0231; Gopal Guthikonda, 972-0240; Denise Avery, 972-0104

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9A of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No Subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

The Hornsby Bend Biosolids Management Facility located at 2210 South FM 973, treats and processes sludge pumped from the Utility's wastewater treatment plants. The plant processes and treats biosolids, which are ultimately processed and sold as compost material called "Dillo dirt", or land applied. Sludge processing and treatment result in the generation of corrosive gases such as hydrogen sulfide, methane, carbon dioxide etc. The processes involved in the thickening and treatment of the biosolids can produce a number of hazardous gasses which include hydrogen sulfide, carbon monoxide, and methane. Hydrogen sulfide gas is toxic and heavier than air. Carbon monoxide and methane are lighter than air; both are hazardous to plant operators.

The existing hazardous gas detection system was installed with the original process equipment, is now obsolete, and is no longer functional. This project will address the immediate need to monitor and detect the hazardous gases at different areas of the plant.

The proposed construction contract will allow for the demolition and removal of existing Hazardous Gas Detection System; installation of new hazardous gas sensor systems with local and remote alarms in the Govalle and South Austin Regional Digester Complexes, Generator Building, Thickener Building, and in the Flow Equalization Building; and integration of the sensor system with the plant control system.

The contract allows 120 calendar days for substantial completion and an additional 30 calendar days for final completion of the project. A contingency (approximately 10%) has been added to address potential unknown conflicts that may occur during construction.

Bid documents were distributed to three general contractors. Bids were opened September 27, 2007. T. Morales submitted the lower of the two bids received:

T. Morales Co., Florence, TX

\$276,000 Base
\$283,000 w/ Alternates

KST Electric, LtdL, Austin, TX
\$320,854 Base
\$329,759 w/Alternates

This project comprises of mostly electrical related improvements. Due to the nature of this project, DSMBR has approved no goals for this project. T. Morales Co. is certified through the City as a minority-owned company (MBE/FH).