

Thursday, November 29, 2007

Purchasing Office RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 29

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract with JOHNSON CONTROLS, INC., Austin, TX, for the purchase and installation of a 5000-ton water chiller in an amount not to exceed \$9,771,430, with the option to purchase a second chiller in an amount not to exceed \$8,328,372, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$18,099,802.

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

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Karen Williams, Buyer II/322-6467

Purchasing Language: Sole Source.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2D 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.

This contract is for the purchase of up to two 5000-ton, York manufactured water chillers, associated equipment, and sub-systems for the Downtown Cooling Plant No. 2 (DCP-2) that provides chilled water to customers in downtown Austin.

Austin Energy (AE) operates two water chilling plants in the downtown area, DCP-1 and DCP-2, that work in conjunction with each other to provide chilled water for building air conditioning to customers in the downtown area. AE has existing infrastructure to distribute the chilled water and meters the chilled water for each customer.

The master plan for DCP-2 is designed around the use of the Johnson Controls manufactured York Titan chillers; therefore, this sole source purchase is necessary to provide additional cooling capacity and to avoid additional costly modifications to existing infrastructure at this cooling plant. DCP-2 is designed to house six of these 5000-ton water chillers, three of which have been installed. It is estimated to take approximately 24 months to manufacture and install these chillers; therefore, this purchase is necessary to provide the current projected capacity needed by 2009. AE plans to purchase the first chiller upon approval of this RCA, with the option to purchase the second chiller within 120 days depending upon any changes in the projected capacity for 2009.

The installation of a different manufactured chiller would result in the need to redesign the existing bays, re-pipe existing connections, and develop software to communicate with different brand equipment.