

## AGENDA



Thursday, May 8, 2008

**Contract and Land Management  
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 14**

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**Subject:** Authorize negotiation and execution of professional service agreements with the following three firms: CARTER & BURGESS, INC., Austin, TX; STANLEY CONSULTANTS, INC., Austin, TX and ACR ENGINEERING, INC, Austin, TX for engineering services for energy plants and distribution systems for an estimated period of one year with the possibility of two one-year extensions, or until available funding authorization is expended, with a total of the three agreements in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000

**Amount and Source of Funding:** Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2007-2008 Capital budgets and/or Operating budget of the Austin Energy.

**Fiscal Note:** There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

**For More Information:** John Jeter 322-6439, Rosie Truelove 974-3064, Robin Field 974-7064

**Purchasing Language:** Best qualification statements of seven received.

**MBE/WBE:** This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9B of the City Code (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 16.5% MBE and 14.2% WBE subcontractor participation.

**Boards and Commission Action:** Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission.

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Austin Energy (AE) owns and operates four plants to be considered in this engineering services agreement: Domain, Mueller Energy Center, Paul Robbins District Cooling Plant, and District Cooling Plant No. 2. In addition AE provides operation and maintenance services for the Combined Transportation Emergency Communication Center and several chilled-water customer locations, which will also be included in this agreement.

Austin Energy Distributed Energy Services Division will provide desired scopes of services and schedules for projects as they become available. The selected firm(s) will be expected to provide a written proposal within mutually agreed upon timeframes.

Examples of projects in which the engineering services described may be provided are: the addition of a 5000 ton water chiller for District Cooling Plant No. 2, installation of underground chilled water piping to a high rise condominium, and connection to an existing emergency generator at the Paul Robbins District Cooling Plant

The City anticipates developing and executing a professional services agreement with each selected firm. Initial project assignments will be based on the firm's final ranking as determined during the RFQ evaluation (highest to lowest), the maximum cumulative contracted amount in comparison to the estimated task budget for that firm, and the firm's qualifications and availability of expertise at time of project need. The total dollar amount will not exceed \$2,000,000, with an estimated amount of \$1,000,000 for the top ranking firm and \$500,000 for each of the remaining two firms. Actual amounts ultimately going to each firm may be higher or lower than the estimated amounts listed above due to variations in project scopes and magnitude.

This request allows for the development of a professional services agreement with each of the three recommended firms. Should the City be unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with any of the recommended firms, negotiations with that firm will cease and the dollar authorization will be distributed between the remaining recommended firms. If a selected firm ceases practice during the contract period, or should the City elect to terminate its agreement with one of the selected firms, the remaining assignments will be distributed to one or more of the remaining firms.

Participation subgoals stated in the solicitation were 1.7% African American, 9.5% Hispanic, 5.3% Native/Asian American and 14.2% Women Business Enterprise (WBE). The recommended firms all provided MBE/WBE Compliance Plans, which were approved by the Department of Small and Minority Business Resources.

Notification of issuance of a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) Statement for the subject services was sent to 297 firms on January 11, 2008. The RFQ was obtained by 41 firms and seven firms submitted qualification statements. None of the firms were certified MBE/WBE firms. The evaluation of the submittals of the seven firms resulted in the following recommendations: