

AGENDA



Thursday, May 22, 2008

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 16**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract with GE ENERGY, Houston, TX, for upgrading the existing GE Energy Outage Management System in an amount not to exceed \$800,000.

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

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

For More Information: Dolores Castillo 322-6466

Purchasing Language: Sole Source.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in accordance with Chapter 2-9D 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 will provide Austin Energy (AE) with the ability to upgrade the PowerOn Outage Management System (OMS) to a real time Distribution Management System (DMS) platform. The first phase will consist of a Pilot Program where GE will deliver a 15 circuit pilot to AE to test the concepts associated with a DMS including, but not limited to, switching management, mobile, distribution automation, and on-line power analysis. After a successful delivery of the Pilot, GE and AE will move into the second phase of the contract where AE will act as a Beta site for testing GE's new DMS product. With the successful completion of the testing, GE and AE will move into the final phase where GE will deliver a production-ready DMS and assist AE with the implementation of that DMS into AE's Distribution Operations.

The upgrade from the current GE OMS to the next generation GE DMS will allow AE to serve the customer more effectively and efficiently before and after a power outage occurs. The GE DMS will also allow AE to better utilize data from other initiatives underway including Distribution Automation and Advanced Metering Infrastructure/Automatic Metering Reading.

As the current supplier of the PowerOn OMS, GE is in a unique position to be the sole provider who can offer an upgrade of AE's system to include the additional functionality of a full DMS integrated with outage management. GE is the owner of the source code for this software and it is not available through any other distribution. The proposed program allows AE to test the DMS functionality as part of the Intelligent Grid Pilot Program, then gradually expand the functionality and finally upgrade to the fully integrated OMS/DMS capability.