

AGENDA



Thursday, September 25, 2008

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 51**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract with SOLAR WORLD CALIFORNIA, Camarillo, CA to supply 128 solar photovoltaic modules in an amount not to exceed \$80,640.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Special Revenue Fund for Austin Energy. Grants were received from the Department of Energy (DOE) and the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) for the Texas Solar for Schools Program.

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

For More Information: Sandy Calles, Buyer Sr./322-6487

Purchasing Language: Lowest bid of four bids received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance 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 is for the purchase of 128 solar photovoltaic (PV) modules for installation at eight schools within the Austin Energy (AE) service area: Rodriguez Elementary School in AISD; Forest Hills Elementary School in the Eanes ISD; Canyon Ridge Middle School and River Place Elementary in the Leander ISD; Del Valle Middle School and Ojeda Junior High School in the Del Valle ISD; and Decker Elementary School and Oak Meadows Elementary School in the Manor ISD. School districts in AE's service area were offered two projects; the districts chose the schools to receive installations.

The PV systems will be mounted free-standing on pole-mounted racks. The total capacity is 22.4 kW DC.

AE received funding from the Department of Energy (DOE) and the State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) for the Texas Solar for Schools Program to promote energy efficiency, protect the environment, and promote community education and outreach.

The project supports AE's commitment to renewable energy by fulfilling one of the goals stated in AE's 2003 Strategic Plan and generating renewable energy credits. The plan calls for AE to implement a highly visible public awareness and education program that will involve the installation of PV projects at schools, branch libraries, and community centers. The energy improvement will generate an estimated 24,000 kWh per year and produce an estimated 24 renewable energy credits per year. These savings are equivalent to an estimated 27,300 vehicle miles traveled, the removal of 3.4 cars from our roadways, or the planting of 532 trees equal to 26.6 acres of forest in Austin's parks. Installation of this equipment is planned for the fall of 2008 and will be completed by spring 2009. A separate solicitation will be issued for the installation of this equipment.

MBE/WBE solicited: 0/0

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

Price Analysis

a. Adequate competition.

- b. Twenty-three notices were sent. There are no known MBE/WBEs available for this commodity. Four bids were received.
- c. This is the first purchase of this type of module; therefore, there is no pricing history available.

Approval Justification

- a. Lowest bid received.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Energy's recommended award.
- c. Advertised on the Internet.