Purchasing Office   **Item No. 49**
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a requirements service contract with GE ENERGY MANAGEMENT SERVICES, Denver, CO, for the purchase and implementation of an Automated Meter Infrastructure software module for Austin Energy's existing PowerOn Outage Management System in an estimated amount not to exceed $266,000, with five 12-month extension options for maintenance and support services in estimated amounts not to exceed $9,000 for the first extension option, $10,600 for the second extension option, $12,532 for the third extension option, $14,788 for the fourth extension option, and $17,449 for the fifth extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed $330,369.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of $266,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Capital Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the extension options is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Art Acuna, Senior Buyer/322-6307

Purchasing Language: Sole Source.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in accordance with Chapter 2-9C 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 Electric Utility Commission.

On August 24, 2006, a contract was awarded to GE Energy Management Services (GEMS) for an Enterprise License Agreement of the GE PowerOn Core licenses and five GIS Read licenses for Austin Energy (AE). The software application utilizes existing geographical information stored in the GE PowerOn Geographical Information System (GIS). GIS data includes the layout of the distribution system, the electrical connectivity system, and the right-of-way corridors that require vegetation management activities.

This contract is for the purchase and implementation of GE Energy Management Service's Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) (smart meter) module to receive meter outages ("Last Gasps") and restoration notifications ("Power Ups") in the PowerOn Outage Mangagement System (OMS). Also included in the proposed module is the ability to contact a meter ("Ping") from within PowerOn to determine a meter's On/Off status. In addition, five years of software support services will be provided.

The PowerOn OMS is utilized by AE's Energy Control Center to identify the location of device outages and dispatch electrical outage repair crews to these device locations. Currently, the only method of identifying outage device locations is by customer calls (to report outages).

The PowerOn AMI software module is the only interface module capable of receiving outages directly from the recently deployed Automated Meters. This software is only available from GEMS and is not distributed through resellers.