

AGENDA



Thursday, February 17, 2011

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION**
Item No. 33

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract with GLOBE ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY, Houston, TX for the purchase of a Direct Current (DC) to Alternating Current (AC) three-phase inverter in an amount not to exceed \$62,626.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

For More Information: Gabriel Guerrero, Buyer II/322-6060

Purchasing Language: Lowest bid meeting specifications 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.

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

This contract is for the purchase of a Direct Current (DC) to Alternating Current (AC) three-phase inverter. This inverter is a continuous duty, solid-state, on-line, Pulse-Width-Modulated (PWM) based inverter that converts the DC power back to clean conditioned AC power.

This inverter supports the Austin Energy (AE) back-up control center (BUCC) which is responsible for redundant electric grid operations in the event of a loss of capabilities at the AE primary site. The BUCC upgrades are part of ERCOT regulatory SCADA/EMS upgrades required for participation in the ERCOT ISO operating region and for transition to a NODAL market operational system. In addition, the facility upgrades and consequent powering needs will support BUCC operations that comply with recently adopted North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)/Federal Energy Reliability Commission (FERC) Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) federal regulatory requirements. This inverter is integral to the powering scheme design that operates in conjunction with the existing electrical systems to provide high quality redundant power to this critical load.

MBE/WBE Solicited: 3/2MBE/WBE Bid: 0/0

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. One hundred and ninety-eight notices were sent, including three MBEs and two WBEs. Four bids were received, with no response from the MBE/WBEs.
- c. This is the first purchase of its type; therefore, there is no pricing history available.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Lowest bid meeting purchasing requirements.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Energy's recommended award.

c. Advertised on the Internet.