

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	8502	Agenda Number	59.
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Meeting Date:	August 18, 2011
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Department:	Purchasing
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Subject

Authorize award and execution of a 12-month requirements supply contract with ACE 1 POWER EQUIPMENT, Austin, TX, for the purchase of meter sockets with prewired voltage transformer packs for Austin Energy in an estimated amount not to exceed \$150,000, with four 12-month extension options in an estimated amount not to exceed \$150,000 per extension option, for a total estimated contract amount not to exceed \$750,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$150,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 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.

Purchasing Language:	Sole Source.
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Gage Loots, Buyer II /512-322-6118
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Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission.
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MBE / WBE:	This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-D 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
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

This contract will provide Austin Energy (AE) with one style of meter socket equipped with a prewired voltage transformer (VT) pack, on an as-needed basis. Meter sockets house electric meters, devices that measure customers' electrical usage. VTs in the meter sockets reduce excessive voltage and currents to minimize safety hazards to personnel and equipment.

This VT pack is composed of three VTs molded together. It is roughly equivalent in cost to three conventional VTs, however, the VT pack is compact, light weight, and prewired, and since it is housed in the meter socket, the need for an additional enclosure is eliminated. This results in lower installation costs in the form of both labor and materials. Most importantly, the accuracy of the VT pack is much greater, providing a higher level of protection by reducing voltage so that AE crews can safely perform work at that service point. This is especially crucial because these meter sockets with VT packs are installed in situations where 480 volts is present, making it highly volatile and potentially more susceptible to failures.

Two Sockets Two Meters, Inc. (TSTM) is the only company that produces the VT pack as well as the custom meter socket that is compatible with the prewired harness. Ace 1 Power Equipment is the exclusive authorized distributor of TSTM products to Austin Energy. Therefore, Ace 1 Power Equipment is the sole source provider of this product.