

A U S T I N C I T Y C O U N C I L
AGENDA

Thursday, August 24, 2006

[Back](#) [Print](#)**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****ITEM No. 30**

Subject: Authorize award and execution of a contract with LODESTAR CORPORATION, Peabody, MA, for the purchase of Lodestar software, support, installation, and training in an amount not to exceed \$111,700.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the fiscal Year 2005-2006 Amended Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is attached.

**Additional Backup
Material**

(click to open)

[Fiscal Note](#)

For More Information: Art Acuña, Buyer II/512-322-6307

Purchasing Language: Sole Source.

MBE/WBE: This purchase 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.

The contract is for the sole source purchase of Lodestar software, maintenance, installation, and training for Austin Energy (AE) to conduct statistical analysis of load research interval customer data.

AE collects load research interval data (60, 15 or 5 minute intervals) for samples of customer groups to estimate customers' energy use patterns during the day and in different seasons. Currently, AE uses a combination of Access and Excel software to manage, edit and analyze its load research data from approximately 1000 customers. This is an extremely labor intensive exercise each month that would be reduced dramatically by using software designed to handle large data sets and which would minimize the potential for errors in the manual process.

AE wants to have standardized load research analysis tools so that the load research process is better documented and more accessible to others with industry experience. Additionally, this commercially-developed package will provide more data management and analysis automation, allowing the analyst to have the time and computing capability to do more detailed analyses and more special customer studies than is available with the current analysis tools.

AE's research into available software packages indicates that LodeStar Comprehensive Energy Analysis System is the only commercially developed comprehensive load research software package available. In addition, LodeStar Comprehensive Energy Analysis software is compatible and readily integrated with other AE modeling systems that require load research data. AE's long range load forecasting models are developed in Metrix-ND software, which accepts LodeStar's data format.

CIP BUDGET
Fiscal Note

DATE OF COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

8/24/2006

WHERE ON AGENDA:

Resolution

DEPARTMENT:

Austin Energy

SUBJECT: Authorize award and execution of a contract with LODESTAR CORPORATION, Peabody, MA, for the purchase of Lodestar software, support, installation, and training in an amount not to exceed \$111,700.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Parent Project Name: **Support Services**
Project Authorization: 2005-2006 Amended Capital Budget

Current Appropriation	\$	60,312,222.00	
Unencumbered Balance			\$ 11,131,765.42
Amount of This Action			(111,700.00)
Remaining Balance			<u>\$ 11,020,065.42</u>

Use of Remaining Balance:

Remaining funds will be used for design, construction, equipment, and material acquisition to complete the project.

Use of Any Remaining Funds After Completion of Project:

No remaining funds anticipated at this time.

Manager Budget

Signature: Noreen Gleeson Date: 8/14/2006