

AGENDA



Thursday, June 10, 2010

**Purchasing Office
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 18**

Subject: Authorize award, negotiation and execution of a professional services contract with R.W. BECK, INC., Austin, TX, for consulting services for performing an affordability benchmarking of Austin Energy customers' rates/bills in an amount not to exceed \$81,400.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Operating Budget of Austin Energy.

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

For More Information: Rosemary Ledesma, Purchasing Manager 322-6155; Mark Dreyfus, Director of Regulatory & Government Affairs 322-6544.

Purchasing Language: Professional Service.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance 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: The Electric Utility Commission was notified of this purchase on May 17, 2010.

This contract is for professional consulting services to perform a benchmark of the total cost of delivered energy and billing analysis for residential, commercial and industrial customers in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) region.

In order to hire an experienced firm with expert qualifications, Austin Energy is requesting R.W. Beck to provide professional services in providing information and advice concerning billing data of retail electric providers in major metropolitan markets in ERCOT. This analysis will support the affordability measures as directed by City Council on April 22, 2010 with the adoption of the Austin Energy Resource, Generation, and Climate Protection Plan.

A final report providing details of the benchmark analysis shall include:

1. Data collection for Austin and major metropolitan markets in ERCOT
2. Analysis of proprietary data available to consultants
3. Comparative Rate/Bill Analysis
4. Third Party Research for validation