



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1980, Agenda Item #: 7.

6/10/2021

**Posting Language**

Authorize negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with Allegis Group Holdings, Inc. (staff recommendation) or one of the other qualified responders for Request for Qualifications Solicitation No. CLMP312 to provide engineering services for the AE Staff Augmentation, Engineering and Related Engineering Services for Electric System Engineering and Technical Services Rotation List in an amount not to exceed \$25,875,000.

[Note: This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9B (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) through the achievements of Good Faith Efforts for 15.80% MBE and 15.80% WBE participation.]

**Lead Department**

Capital Contracting Office

**Managing Department**

Austin Energy

**Fiscal Note**

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2020 - 2021 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

**Purchasing Language:**

Staff recommendation is based on the two most qualified firms out of 16 firms evaluated through the City's qualification-based selection process.

**Prior Council Action:**

March 4, 2021 - Council approved a professional services agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. and POWER Engineers, Inc. for the AE Staff Augmentation, Engineering and Related Engineering Services for Electric System Engineering and Technical Services Rotation List.

**For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or [AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov](mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov) <<mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov>>

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall direct inquiries to Rolando Fernandez, 512-974-7749; Rick Wilson, 512-974-7261; or the Project Manager, Tara Delagarza, 512- 505-7175.

**Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:**

May 13, 2021 - Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on a vote of 8-0, with Commissioners Ferchill, Funkhouser and Wray absent.

February 8, 2021 - Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on a vote of 8-0, with Commissioners Ferchill, Funkhouser and Wray absent.

**Additional Backup Information:**

As a standard business practice, the City routinely engages the services of professional engineering firms to perform analysis, design and support services associated with construction or improvement of City capital assets. Rotation List contracting allows the City to always have a group of qualified consultants available to perform a specific type of recurring work in a timely manner to meet the project and operational needs of the City.

Prior to issuing, this solicitation, it was reviewed by the City's Rotation List Advisory Committee, which is made up of staff from the Capital Contracting Office, Small and Minority Business Resource Department, Public Works Department, and other user departments. The total authorization amount, the number of firms to be recommended for selection, and the authorization amount per firm were discussed and reviewed by the Committee. The Capital Contracting Office expects that user departments will require these services to meet current and future transmission, substation, and distribution of electrical engineering and associated supporting engineering needs.

The selected firm will serve as a professional consultant, providing technical consultation and advice for the Electric System Engineering and Technical Services group of Austin Energy. Services will generally include producing turnkey project and construction drawing packages, as well as providing engineering, technical and drafting personnel to augment Austin Energy workspaces.

Anticipated services include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Transmission Design
- Substation Design
- Relay Design
- Protection Design
- Planning Analysis
- Distribution Design
- Equipment and Materials Analysis
- Construction Materials Testing, Subsurface Utility Exploration and Geotechnical Engineering Services
- Civil Engineering
- Land Surveying Services
- Right-of-Way (ROW) Appraisal and Acquisition Services

This request allows for the development of a professional services agreement with the recommended firm until financial authorization is expended. Initial project assignments will be based on the firm's final ranking as determined during the Request for Qualifications evaluation (highest to lowest), the maximum cumulative contracted amount in comparison to the estimated task budget for that firm, and the firm's qualifications and availability of expertise at time of project need. Per firm authorizations may be increased or decreased, through the life of the contract, based on the needs of a particular assignment and will follow the established rotation list policies and procedures. If the City is unsuccessful in negotiating a satisfactory agreement with a recommended firm(s), if a selected firm ceases practice during the contract period, or if the City elects to terminate its agreement with one of the selected firms, the remaining assignments will be assigned to the remaining firm(s) for the duration of the contract period.

On March 4, 2021, Council approved the negotiation and execution of a professional services agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. and POWER Engineers, Inc. Negotiations with POWER Engineers, Inc., however, failed to result in an agreement. In accordance with Government Code 2254, the City formally ended negotiations with POWER Engineers, Inc. and, upon Council approval of this request, the City will attempt to negotiate an agreement with the next most qualified firm, Allegis Group Holdings, Inc.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Safety; Government That Works for All