

E Environment Committee

Item: 2010-387

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 8, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: November 10, 2010

Subject: Authorization to Reject all Bids for Construction of Primary Settling Tanks Sludge Collection System Improvements, Biofilter Access Addition & Liquid Waste Receiving Tunnel Access; MCES Project Nos. 805910, 805942 & 805951; Contract No. 10P052-A

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the rejection of all bids for construction of Primary Settling Tanks Sludge Collection System Improvements, Biofilter Access Addition & Liquid Waste Receiving Tunnel Access; MCES Projects No. 805910, 805942 & 805951; Contract No. 10P052-A.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Council Member Leppik expressed surprise that bidders did not make a good faith effort, and asked if they were new to the process. Staff responded that bidders can become lax in their efforts. One bidder made a good faith effort, but its bid was highest. Leppik asked if the high bid was affected by W/MBE requirements. Staff responded that this is unknown.

Council Member Wittsack asked about the timing of the project and if the work can be done in the winter. Staff responded that it can be done in winter.

Motion to approve the proposed action was made, seconded and passed unanimously.



Environment Committee

Meeting date: November 9, 2010

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of December 8, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	November 1, 2010
Subject:	Authorization to Reject all Bids for Construction of Primary Settling Tanks Sludge Collection System Improvements, Biofilter Access Addition & Liquid Waste Receiving Tunnel Access; MCES Project Nos. 805910, 805942 & 805951; Contract No. 10P052-A
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Policy 3-3, Expenditures
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Bryce Pickart 651-602-1091
Division/Department:	MCES c/o William G. Moore 651-602-1162

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the rejection of all bids for construction of Primary Settling Tanks Sludge Collection System Improvements, Biofilter Access Addition & Liquid Waste Receiving Tunnel Access; MCES Projects No. 805910, 805942 & 805951; Contract No. 10P052-A.

Background

The Metro Plant has eight rectangular Primary Settling Tanks which use a system of electric motors, sprockets, and wooden scraper boards attached to rotating metal chains to scrape settled sludge and to float scum to areas where it is collected and removed. The sludge collection equipment systems began service in 1977 and are near the end of their useful life. Based on competitive bidding and the objective of standardizing replacement parts, the new sludge collection system for the 8 Primary Settling Final Tanks will be replaced with cast iron chains and fiberglass scrapers. It was anticipated that this part of the work would have limited subcontracting opportunities because the equipment constituted over half of the value and its installation utilized a trade integral to the bidding firms.

Two other small projects were included in this contract, in part to increase subcontracting opportunities with more common types of construction work. The biofilter that treats odorous air from the primary settling tanks needs cleanout accesses added to allow water jet cleaning of the perforated air distribution pipes. The wood chip media and irrigation drip hoses also need replacement. In the Liquid Waste Receiving drywell, a new concrete ramp and stairway, and security controlled doors into the plant maintenance tunnel network are needed.

The Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) utilization goals for this contract are 5% and 10%, respectively. At the pre-bid meeting, firms were verbally reminded of the importance of making good faith efforts towards meeting the MBE/WBE utilization goals.

Five bids were received on October 13, 2010. Bids ranged from \$2,822,200 to \$3,933,850. WBE & MBE utilization for the 3 low bidders was reviewed by the Office of Diversity and found to range from 0.00% to 0.33% (combined WBE/MBE). The low bid

firm failed to submit required post-bid EPA required forms, for which the Office of Diversity determined their bid unresponsive. The other two low bids were found unresponsive for failing to demonstrate good faith efforts to meet the goals. Therefore it is recommended that all bids be rejected.

Rationale

Rejection of all bids is in the Council’s best interest based on review of the MBE & WBE utilization efforts.

Funding

None required at this time.

Known Support / Opposition

None.