

E Environment Committee

Item: 2010-390

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 8, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: November 10, 2010

Subject: Authorization to Purchase Polymer for the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to issue a purchase order to Polydyne, Inc. to provide Clarifloc CE-817 & CE-819 Polymers to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant at the unit price of \$0.15 & \$1.25 per pound respectively.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Larry Rogacki, Director of Plant Services, provided an overview of polymer, which is the third largest operating expense. The Committee and staff discussed how the polymer trials are conducted and how a reasonable comparison is achieved. Council Member Peterson asked if Polydyne is a local company. Rogacki responded that it is located in Chicago. He informed the committee that a number of polymer companies have consolidated, and staff is attempting to recruit other manufacturers, but it is a challenge to get enough competition.

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:	October 26, 2010
Subject:	Authorization to Purchase Polymer for the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – procurement of Goods and Services Over \$250,000
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Micky Gutzmann 651-601-1741; Larry Rogacki 651-602-8225
Division/Department:	William G. Moore 651-602-1162

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to issue a purchase order to Polydyne, Inc. to provide Clarifloc CE-817 & CE-819 Polymers to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant at the unit price of \$0.15 & \$1.25 per pound respectively.

Background

Polymer is a conditioning chemical, which aids in the removal of water while processing sludge solids on mechanical equipment such as Centrifuges and Belt Presses. The Metro Plant uses two different polymer products dependent upon sludge composition. The daily polymer selection is based on which product results in the lowest overall operating cost.

Polymer full scale testing is very labor intensive and time consuming for operations staff. Full scale testing was run in 2008 at the Empire and Eagles Point Plants, 2009 at the Seneca and Blue Lake Plants and this past summer at the Metro Plant.

Procurement of polymer involves receipt of sealed bids, followed by a full-scale evaluation of polymer performance, followed by an evaluation of bids to identify the most effective polymer at the lowest cost to the Council. A formal, advertised Invitation for Bids (IFB) was issued for this procurement. All IFBs share the same terms for price escalation and purchase order extension (a two-year, fixed price term with the option to extend for three additional one-year periods with a 10% cap for price increases).

Unit costs are \$23.51(CE-817) and \$38.40 (CE-819) per dry ton of sludge processed. The purchase order will be for a period of two years, with an option to renew for three additional one-year periods. Estimated expenditures for this procurement are approximately \$3,200,000 annually.

Rationale

Procurement of goods and services over \$250,000 require Council authorization. Staff will return to the Council for authorization for subsequent price increases and term extensions.

Funding

Funds are available in the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant operating budget.

Known Support / Opposition

None