

**E Environment Committee  
Meeting date: November 9, 2010**

**For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of December 8, 2010**

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

<b>Date:</b>	November 1, 2010
<b>Subject:</b>	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
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Council Policy 3-3, Expenditures
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Bryce Pickart 651-602-1091
<b>Division/Department:</b>	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.