



Environment Committee

Item: 2009-44

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 11, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: January 28, 2009

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 Incorporated, to provide Clarifloc CE-817 & CE-819 Polymers to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant at a unit price of \$0.145 & \$1.21 per pound respectively.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

In advance of the meeting Committee Member Wittsack asked if staff could report the usage and pricing for the past couple of years. Gutzmann provided that information (2006, \$1.7 million; 2007, \$2.6 million; 2008, \$2.7 million). Usage remains constant; pricing increases, with the latest increase from 2008 to 2009 being 8%. The proposed action was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

E Environment Committee

Meeting date: January 27, 2009

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of February 11, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION	
Date:	January 20, 2009
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 651-602-1741
Division/Department:	MCES c/o William G. Moore 651-602-1162

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to issue a purchase order to Polydyne Incorporated, to provide Clarifloc CE-817 & CE-819 Polymers to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant at a unit price of \$0.145 & \$1.21 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. Two types of polymer are required as the Metro Plant produces two different blends of primary and secondary sludge solids depending on operating conditions.

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.

Polymer manufacturers were invited by a formal Invitation for Bids in August of 2005 to test up to three different polymers each. Polymers from Polydyne and Stockhausen met the minimum solids recovery standards set forth in the technical specifications of the evaluation. One manufacturer, Nalco, withdrew from the evaluation during preliminary testing.

The results of the original evaluation are used to determine the lowest responsive, responsible bidder for a series of one-year purchase orders over a five-year period. The pre-qualified bidders will be invited to submit pricing annually for the next year’s contract.

Polydyne was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the year 2009 purchase order for both types of polymer. Unit costs ranged from \$16.50 - \$46.77 per dry ton of sludge processed. Estimated expenditures for this chemical are approximately \$3,000,000 annually.

Rationale

Contracts with an amount exceeding \$250,000 require Metropolitan Council authorization.

Funding

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

Known Support / Opposition

None.