

**E** Environment Committee  
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of January 27, 2010

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

Date Prepared: January 15, 2010

Subject: Authorization to Purchase Polymer for the Blue Lake and Seneca  
Wastewater Treatment Plants

**Proposed Action:**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to issue purchase orders to Polydyne, Inc. to provide Clarifloc CE-1421, CE 1422 and CE-1423 polymers at a unit price of \$0.71/lb each to the Blue Lake WWTP and Clarifloc CE-1428, CE-1429 and CE-1430 polymers at a unit price of \$0.76/lb each to the Seneca WWTP.

**Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:**

At the committee's request, staff explained that the cost difference of the polymers is due to the type of polymer that is needed to dewater the sludge. There is a difference between the characteristics of sludge at Blue Lake and Seneca. Some of the difference is attributed to the characteristics of the influent flow. Seneca has a history of being more difficult to dewater, resulting in a higher cost.

The proposed action was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

# **E** Environment Committee **Meeting date: January 12, 2010**

**For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of January 27, 2010**

## **ADVISORY INFORMATION**

Date:	December 30, 2009
Subject:	Authorization to Purchase Polymer for the Blue Lake and Seneca Wastewater Treatment Plants
District(s), Member(s):	3-Robert McFarlin; 4-Craig Peterson; 5-Polly Bowles; 15-Daniel Wolter; 16-Wendy Wulff
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurement of Goods and Services Over \$250,000
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Larry Rogacki, 651-602-8225; Micky Gutzmann, 651-602-1741
Division/Department:	MCES c/o William G. Moore, 651-602-1162

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### **Background:**

A formal, advertised Invitation for Bids was issued for this procurement. 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. 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.

Unit costs at the Blue Lake Plant ranged from \$18.21 - \$22.26 per dry ton of sludge processed. Unit costs at the Seneca Plant ranged from \$28.86 - \$33.30 per ton of dry sludge processed.

The purchase orders will be for a period of three years, with an option to renew for two additional one-year periods. Estimated expenditures for this procurement are approximately \$500,000 annually for the Blue Lake Plant and \$500,000 annually for the Seneca Plant. The estimated cost for five years is \$ 5,000,000.

### **Rationale:**

Award purchase orders for the above-referenced polymers for the Blue Lake and Seneca WWTPs. As the dewatering process is somewhat variable based on changing sludge conditions Council staff feel it prudent to have the flexibility to use any of the three polymers that passed the performance criteria at each plant.

The bid price per pound delivered decreased 7% from the current prices bid in 2004.

### **Funding:**

Funds are available in the operating budget of each plant.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

None