

## Environment Committee

Meeting date: July 9, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 24, 2013

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**Subject:** Authorization to Negotiate and Execute Contracts for Construction Inspection Services

**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 Leisa Thompson 651-602-8101

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### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute five-year contracts for construction inspection services, in an amount not to exceed \$800,000, with HR Green, Stantec, Bolton & Menk, TKDA, and Foth Infrastructure & Environment.

### Background

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) contracts for construction of its seven-county regional wastewater system. MCES staff will continue to manage the construction contract administration for all construction contracts. To supplement its construction inspection staff, MCES has been contracting with local engineering firms for construction inspection assistance for several years with excellent success. The benefits include: (1) handling variability in work load, i.e. peaks; (2) giving local engineering firms construction knowledge that they can apply to our project designs; and (3) providing a conduit for our recruitment of new employees (some have been hired by MCES).

Because interceptor rehabilitation is the major capital project priority over the next five years, an increased work load is projected. In anticipation, five construction inspectors have recently been added to the MCES Construction Services group. Three additional inspectors have been proposed for 2014. In addition, MCES proposes to contract for construction inspection services assistance from five local firms familiar with design and construction of large wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities.

The firms shall provide experienced and qualified construction inspectors in the areas of civil, electrical, and mechanical construction. Generally, it is expected that the assigned projects will include full-time civil construction inspection and part-time electrical and mechanical inspection.

A Request for Proposals was issued for these services. Eight proposals were received. The evaluation committee recommends awarding five-year contracts to five firms: HR Green, Stantec, Bolton & Menk, TKDA, and Foth Infrastructure and Environment. Each firm has a local office with engineering and construction inspection personnel. All firms have provided high quality services on MCES projects. These contracts are cost reimbursement type contracts and utilize project specific work task orders to authorize work and staff assignments on a project-by-project basis. Five contracts are recommended to provide flexibility in scheduling work and to take advantage of a firm's special knowledge and/or capabilities.

**Rationale**

Professional services contracts with an amount exceeding \$250,000 require Metropolitan Council authorization.

**Funding**

Funding is provided by the MCES Capital Program.

**Known Support / Opposition**

None.