

**Environment Committee**

Meeting date: November 12, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 13, 2019

**Subject:** Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant Solids Phase I and Miscellaneous Improvements  
**District(s), Member(s):** Council District 16, Wendy Wulff  
**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures  
**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Heidi Hutter, 651-602-1026; Rene Heflin, 651-602-1077  
**Division/Department:** MCES c/o Leisa Thompson, 651-602-8101

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a construction contract for the Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant Solids Phase I and Miscellaneous Improvements, MCES Project Numbers 807400, 807415, 807825, 807826, Contract No. 19P155, with Rice Lake Construction Group, for an amount not to exceed \$23,745,060.00.

**Background**

This project implements the following items from the Council approved Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant Solids Improvements Facility Plan adopted April 2013, Business Item No. 2013-193:

- 1) Biosolids pad improvements to meet biosolids storage capacity needs
- 2) Partial biogas treatment to support energy efficiency and renewable energy generation
- 3) Boiler system renewal and miscellaneous improvements

A second phase will follow to implement the remainder of the approved facility plan elements.

Additional plant needs are also being addressed in this project including reconstruction of the entrance road, high strength waste receiving, electrical improvements, and arc flash mitigation.

Procurement facilitated a public pre-bid meeting on September 5, 2019. There were sixty-four (64) plan holders for this project. Three (3) bids were received and evaluated on the bid closing day of October 3, 2019. Rice Lake Construction Group was determined to be the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Rice Lake Construction Group committed to a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) utilization of 9.54% for this contract, 4.69% Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and 4.85% Women Business Enterprise (WBE).

**Rationale**

Procurement of construction services over \$2,500,000 in value requires Metropolitan Council authorization.

**Thrive Lens Analysis**

This action supports the Thrive outcome of stewardship as the work supports efforts to maintain the region’s wastewater treatment system.

**Funding**

Funding is provided in the 2019 Authorized Capital Program



**Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition to this project.