

Environment Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 13, 2019

Subject: Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant Solids Phase I and Miscellaneous Improvements

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.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Chair Lindstrom asked regarding the time delay between Facility Plan adoption in 2013 and today. Staff stated that 2013 was adoption of the facility plan. Following that action, a designer had to be selected before work could move forward which took about 1 year. Design was based on pilot testing which took approximately 3 years to demonstrate multiple pad management strategies and account for seasonal variation.

Committee Member Sterner asked how much energy combined heat and power was anticipated to generate. Staff stated there will be approximately 30% of the plant's heat and electricity demand generated for on-site use.

Committee Member Zeran abstained from vote.

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

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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.