

## Environment Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 4, 2020

**Subject:** Metro Plant Polymer, Contract 19P249

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract to Polydyne, Inc. of Riceboro, GA to provide Clarifloc polymers CE-817 and CE-2179 at unit prices of \$0.12 per pound and \$1.00 per pound respectively delivered to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant. This contract will be for a period of five years with the total procurement not to exceed \$15,100,000.

### Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Committee Member Vento expressed interest in learning factors to be aware of regarding safe use and disposal of the products. Staff will follow up with the committee.

Committee Member Sterner asked why the duration of the contract is for 5 years rather than a shorter duration. Staff stated the contract is written initially for a 2-year period with additional years beyond the first two years as options for extending the contract. Pricing is evaluated to assure it remains current. If pricing increases dramatically, we have an opportunity to re-bid. There are currently two manufacturers interested in bidding on this contract that can provide the polymer we use.

Chair Lindstrom expressed this is a national market. Staff concurred. We have also reached out to other possible vendors in hopes of additional bids but did not receive any for this contract.

## Environment Committee

Meeting date: October 27, 2020

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 4, 2020

**Subject:** Metro Plant Polymer, Contract 19P249

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Expenditure Policy 3-3, Procurement of Goods and Services

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Joseph Ward, 651-602-8302

**Division/Department:** MCES c/o Leisa Thompson, 651-602-8101

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### 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. A formal, advertised Invitation for Bids was issued on November 26, 2019. Two qualified bids were received and opened on January 30, 2020.

Following the receipt of sealed polymer bids, an evaluation process is conducted which includes a full-scale evaluation of polymer performance along with an evaluation of the bids to identify the most effective polymer at the lowest cost to the Council. At the conclusion of this process, Polydyne, Inc. was determined to be the vendor that met evaluation process requirements.

Polymer unit costs ranged from \$21-\$47 per dry ton of sludge processed. Current estimated expenditures for this procurement are \$2,800,000 annually. This is a five-year contract that includes annual price adjustments based on the US government Producer Price Index for Plastic Material and Resins Manufacturing. Estimated expenditures for these process chemicals are \$15,100,000 over the five-year period accounting for inflation increases.

The Office of Equal Opportunity did not identify a Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) goal for this procurement due to limited suppliers in the industry to provide the necessary chemical.

### Rationale

The award and execution of Goods contracts in excess of \$500,000 requires Council approval.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

This action advances the Thrive outcome of stewardship. Public financial resources will be invested efficiently and effectively to maintain proper operation of the Metropolitan Disposal System which protects the region's natural resources.

### Funding

Funds are available in the treatment plant operating budget

**Known Support / Opposition**

None