

Business Item

Metropolitan Council



Committee Meeting Date: September 12, 2023

For the Metropolitan Council: September 26, 2023

Business Item: 2023-208

Empire Polymer Contract, Contract 22P2349A

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM 14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Elizabeth Schrandt, Principal Engineer, 651-602-8407
Division/Department:	Environmental Services/Process Engineering, R&D, and Air Quality

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 22P349A with Polydyne, Inc. to provide polymer to the Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant in amount not to exceed \$2,399,000.

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.

This procurement followed a two-step process. An Invitation for Prequalification was issued on December 19, 2022. The purpose of this solicitation is to identify the most effective polymer through a full-scale evaluation of their performance and prequalify those contractors. Only contractors that are prequalified are allowed to participate in the Invitation for Bids, which is the second step in the procurement process.

The Invitation for Bids was issued on July 10, 2023. There were twelve registered planholders, eight suppliers, three plan rooms, and one planholder identified as minority, woman, veteran, small, or disadvantaged business enterprises. Three bids were received and opened on August 10, 2023, and Polydyne, Inc. was determined to be the low, responsive, responsible bidder is being recommended for award.

Polymer unit costs from the bids ranged from \$56.41 - \$78.36 per dry ton of sludge processed. This contract will provide polymer at a unit price of \$1.29 per pound for a period of two years with an option to extend for three additional one-year periods. Estimated expenditures are \$380,000 annually and \$2,339,000 over a five-year period with price adjustments based on the Producer Price Index for Plastic Material and Resins Manufacturing.

Rationale

The execution of a professional service, goods contract exceeding \$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.

Small Business Inclusion

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) thoroughly reviewed this procurement for Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) opportunities in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations as well as contract specifications. Upon conclusion of OEEO's research and analysis, no MCUB goal was set.

