

Agenda Report

April 22, 2002

To: City Council

From: City Manager

Subject: Adopt Resolution to Authorize the Application for a Grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for Vulnerability Assessments, Emergency Operations Plans, and Security Enhancement Planning and Design at Large Drinking Water Utilities

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution to authorize Pasadena Water and Power (PWP) to apply for an \$115,000 grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for vulnerability assessments, emergency operations plans, and security enhancement planning and design of the City's water facilities. It is also recommended that the City Council designate PWP's General Manager as the authorized representative for the City and authorize her signature on the contract documents.

BACKGROUND

On March 28, 2002 the EPA issued a Request for Applications to water agencies in order to receive a federal grant of up to \$115,000 for security studies. This EPA non-competitive grant is available to all public water agencies serving a population of 100,000 or more. PWP serves approximately 160,000 people.

Following the events of September 11, 2001 the EPA received a supplemental appropriation to improve the safety and security of the nation's water supply. The funding is intended to reduce the vulnerability of water utilities to terrorist attacks and to enhance their security and ability to respond to emergency situations. In support of that goal, this grant program funds the following activities:

Development of a Vulnerability Assessment:

A vulnerability assessment is the highest priority activity under this grant program, since it is the first step in understanding where a utility can be damaged by a terrorist attack. A vulnerability assessment is a systematic analysis used to develop a security protection plan for water supply, treatment, and distribution systems. It identifies a system's vulnerabilities and provides a prioritized plan for security upgrades, modifications of operational procedures, and/or policy changes to mitigate identified risks to critical assets. The vulnerability assessment also provides a basis for comparing the cost of protection against the risks posed.

Development of an Emergency Operations Plan:

An Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is a guide for water utilities upon which actions and decisions can be based to govern the immediate response to an emergency. The intent of the EOP is to identify certain responsibilities delegated to various teams and employees, present details of the notification procedures, and describe alternate measures and response actions.

Recent inspections by PWP indicate no immediate threats to the City's water facilities. However, these grant funds could be used towards a more in-depth review, as well as for designing security systems and emergency plans. The grant could also augment efforts being undertaken with utility funds and from other resources, although no grant funds can be used for physical security equipment and facility improvements.

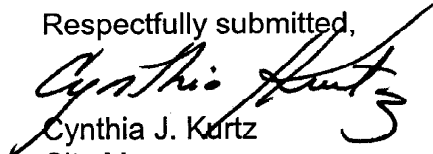
If the grant is used for a vulnerability assessment, it must be completed within six months of the grant award or by the end of calendar year 2002, whichever is later. Other activities under the grant should be completed in a reasonable time thereafter. If the utility is able to complete the project plan under budget, the grant may be amended to cover security systems design and additional security planning activities within the project scope.

The deadline for grant submittal is April 29, 2002.


FISCAL IMPACT

These grant funds will augment the Water Fund, Capital Improvement Project, Facility Security Systems. There is no application fee associated with the submission of the grant application. There are also no matching funds required for this grant.

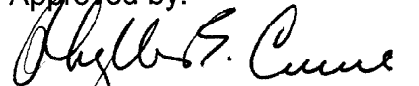
Respectfully submitted,


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