

Agenda Report

June 6, 2016

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Water and Power Department

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH APPLIED EARTHWORKS, INC. TO CONDUCT AVIAN, BAT, VEGETATION, CULTURAL, AND SPECIAL-STATUS HERPETOLOGICAL SURVEYS FOR THE AZUSA HYDROELECTRIC PLANT.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed contract is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), General Rule; and
2. Authorize the Interim City Manager to enter into a contract without competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter Article X Section 1002 (F) contracts for professional or unique services, with Applied EarthWorks, Inc. for conducting Avian, Bat, Vegetation, Cultural, and Special-Status Herpetological Surveys for the Azusa Hydroelectric Plant in an amount not to exceed \$89,500, which includes the base contract amount of \$77,782.52 and a contingency of \$11,717.48 to provide for any necessary change orders.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Pasadena owns and operates the Azusa Hydroelectric Plant ("Plant") rated at 3 MW located in the City of Azusa, California. This Plant generates renewable hydro power. The current thirty-year license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC") for this Plant will expire on December 31, 2018. Pasadena Water and Power ("PWP") has submitted an application for the renewal of the FERC license. PWP is seeking the renewal of license with an exemption for the conduit that conveys water to the Plant from San Gabriel and Morris dams. Once granted by FERC, the conduit exempted license would not require renewal in future. As a result of public meetings and stakeholders comments, FERC has advised PWP to conduct Avian, Bat, Vegetation,

Cultural, and Special-Status Herpetological Surveys in consultation with the U.S. Forest Service and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. These surveys have been developed in consultation with these agencies and are designed to collect data and gather necessary information to determine the presence of these species at the Plant in support of the FERC exemption process.

A Request for Proposals ("RFP") to conduct these surveys was posted on Planet Bid on January 27, 2016. Nine companies attended the pre-proposal conference and nine responded to the City's RFP. PWP staff independently evaluated the nine proposals based on the criteria stated in the RFP and evaluation yielded the following scores:

Proposer	Qualifications & Experience Max-40	Price Max-40	References Max-10	Local Pasadena Business	Small Micro Business	Total Score
Applied EarthWorks, Inc., Pasadena, CA	33	40	9	5	5	92
PSOMAS, Pasadena, CA	37	26	10	5	-	78
SWCA Environmental, Pasadena, CA	31	26	10	5	5	77
DUDEK, Pasadena, CA	24	27	10	5	5	71
PCR Services Corporation, Pasadena, CA	27	27	9	5	-	68
Power Engineers, Inc., Anaheim, CA	30	26	9	-	-	65
Chambers Group, Santa Ana, CA	37	18	9	-	-	64
Stantec, Pasadena, CA	33	14	10	5	-	62
Garcia, Los Angeles, CA	37	7	10	-	-	54

Applied EarthWorks, Inc. received the highest score, proposed the lowest total not to exceed price, and therefore is recommended for a contract award. There is no record of Applied EarthWorks, Inc. having a contract with the City in the past.

The requested amount of \$89,500 is based on the proposal price \$77,782.52 plus approximately 15% contingency for any necessary change orders subject to approval of the Interim General Manager of PWP. The contingency amount would provide for potential changes in the scope of work due to additional requirements by the regulatory agencies or factors unknown at this time. Staff from the Power Supply division will manage the contract. This proposed professional services contract is not subject to the prevailing wages law (Senate Bill 7) per resolution 9406 adopted by the City Council on December 15, 2014.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The proposed contract supports the City Council strategic goal to maintain a diverse portfolio of resources to ensure adequate, economical and reliable water and power supply.


ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed action is the execution of a contract for professional services required for the re-licensing of the Azusa Hydroelectric Plant. This action has been determined to be exempt from the CEQA process pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question, such as executing a professional services contract for conducting Avian, Bat, Vegetation, Cultural, and Special-Status Herpetological Surveys for the Azusa Hydroelectric Plant, may have an effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. This action does not have the potential for causing an effect on the environment and is therefore exempt from CEQA per Section 15061(b)(3) (General Rule). The work performed under the proposed contract is intended to directly support the license exemption process for the Azusa Hydroelectric Project (P-1250). The exemption process for the Azusa Project, which is under the purview of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, is subject to the provisions of CEQA; however, while the studies to be performed will support the CEQA process, the work (the studies themselves) performed under this contract would not commit the City or any other agency to undertake or approve the exemption process, and would not cause a direct or indirect change in the environment and therefore is not subject to the provisions of CEQA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total not to exceed cost of this action will be \$89,500.00. It will be spent during the FY 2017. Funding is available in Account No. 44205390-811500 of the Power Operating Fund. There is no anticipated impact to other operational programs or capital projects as a result of this action.

Respectfully submitted,



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Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
Interim City Manager