

**CITY OF AUSTIN – PURCHASING DEPT.
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION
VENDOR NAME: GREENBELT SOLAR**

AGENDA DATE: 08/22/2013

SUBJECT: Authorize award and execution of a contract with GREENBELT SOLAR for the purchase and installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems for four residential duplexes in the Guadalupe-Saldana Net Zero Energy Community, in an amount not to exceed \$68,500.

AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING: Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2012-2013 Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

FISCAL NOTE: A fiscal note is required.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Terry Nicholson, Senior Buyer, 512-322-6586

BOARD AND COMMISSION ACTION: To be reviewed by the Electric Utility Commission on July 15, 2013 and the Resource Management Commission on July 16, 2013.

PURCHASING: Sole responsive bid received.

MBE/WBE: This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.

This contract will provide turn-key solar photovoltaic (PV) system installation for four residential, multi-family duplexes in the Guadalupe-Saldana Net Zero Energy Community located near the intersection of Goodwin Avenue, Webberville Road, and Tillery Street in East Austin. The objective of the project is to create a community of Net Zero Energy Homes in Austin including single-family and multi-family residences. The Net Zero project will benefit Austin Energy by allowing the utility to study the technologies, systems, strategies and occupant behaviors that will enable very low or net zero energy use homes to become the standard for new construction in Austin and beyond.

This contract will further advance the goals set forth in the Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan to 2020, which calls for 35% of generation to be met through renewable sources, including 200 MW of solar power; and in Austin Energy's 2003 Strategic Plan calling for energy conservation through the use of alternative energy sources.

This project's total system capacity is 27.6 kW. A total of 21.3 kW in demand savings is expected. This energy improvement will save an estimated 37,604 kWh per year—enough to provide electricity to three average Austin homes for a year—and produce an estimated 37 Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) per year. These savings are equivalent to the planting of 580 trees or 29 acres of forest in Austin's parks or the removal of 55,697 vehicle miles or four cars from Austin roadways. This project will save 25 tons of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂); 31 pounds of Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂); 35 pounds of Nitrogen Oxide (NOX); and 25 pounds of Carbon Monoxide (CO) from being emitted into the atmosphere.

MBE/WBE solicited: 1/2

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

BID TABULATION

IFB TVN0087
Solar PV Equipment Supply & Installation Services
(2 – line items)

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Total</u>
Greenbelt Solar Austin, TX	\$68,500.
Solar Works LLC Austin, TX	*

* Non-responsive for failing to provide pricing information as required.

A complete bid tabulation is on file in the Purchasing Office and is on the City of Austin, FASD Purchasing Office website.

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. Fifty-two notices were sent including one MBE and two WBEs. Two bids were received with no response from the MBE/WBE's.
- c. This is the first purchase of its type; therefore, there is no direct pricing history available. However, the pricing of these systems at \$2.48 per watt installed compares favorably with recent prices for systems rebated by Austin Energy which averaged \$3.39 per watt installed in the second quarter of FY 2013. The previous solar PV installations were on commercial buildings and the scope of the projects; including the equipment to be installed, were different than those of this purchase.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Sole responsive bid.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Energy's recommended award.
- c. Advertised on the Internet.