



## Recommendation for Action

**File #:** 22-3025, **Agenda Item #:** 26.

9/29/2022

---

### **Posting Language:**

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with iDefender, LLC for license agreement, maintenance, and other services to support North American Electric Reliability Corporation Critical Infrastructure Protection compliance reporting, for a term of five years in an amount not to exceed \$1,277,000.

(Note: Sole source contracts are exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9C, Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

### **Lead Department:**

Financial Services Department.

### **Client Department(s):**

Austin Energy.

### **Fiscal Note:**

Funding in the amount of \$530,000 is available in the Capital Budget of Austin Energy. Funding for the remaining contract term is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.

### **Purchasing Language:**

Sole Source.

### **For More Information:**

Inquiries should be directed to Paula Barriffe, at 512-322-6118 or [Paula.Barriffe@austintexas.gov](mailto:Paula.Barriffe@austintexas.gov) [<mailto:Paula.Barriffe@austintexas.gov>](mailto:Paula.Barriffe@austintexas.gov).

### **Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:**

September 12, 2022 - Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on a 9-0 vote with two vacancies.

### **Additional Backup Information:**

The contract will facilitate transition from a pay-per-license model to an Enterprise License Agreement in addition to maintenance, support, and professional services to support compliance reporting to meet North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) requirements.

The Industrial Defender (iDefender) Automated Systems Manager (ASM) offers a comprehensive NERC CIP compliance solution that allows Austin Energy to meet NERC CIP compliance requirements. iDefender ASM automatically collects the necessary information across a heterogeneous asset base, analyzes it, reports anomalies, and provides a turnkey solution to compliance reporting. Austin Energy uses iDefender to monitor and alert any unauthorized changes on assets subject to NERC cyber security regulations. Failure to do so can result in fines up to \$1 million/day/event. Austin Energy has successfully utilized iDefender since 2016 and requires uninterrupted support as it is a critical piece of NERC CIP reporting.

iDefender, LLC owns all rights, title, and interest in the iDefender ASM suite of software solutions and is the

sole provider of support and professional services.

**Strategic Outcome(s):**

Government that Works for All, Safety.