



Recommendation for Action

File #: 22-3772, Agenda Item #: 14.

1/26/2023

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract for upgrades to the control system on Unit 5 at Sand Hill Energy Center with General Electric International, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$2,600,000.

[Note: This contract is 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 is available in the Capital Budget of Austin Energy.

Purchasing Language:

Austin Energy is designating this purchase as a Critical Business Need in accordance with Senate Bill 7, as adopted by the City as Resolution No. 040610-02.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to Julia Finn, at 512-974-2835 or Julia.Finn@austintexas.gov or [<mailto:Julia.Finn@austintexas.gov>](mailto:Julia.Finn@austintexas.gov).

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

January 9, 2023 - Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission on a 7-0 vote with Commissioners Hopkins and Bowen absent and two vacancies.

Additional Backup Information:

The contract will provide upgrades to the General Electric Mark VI control system on Unit 5, which is the 300-megawatt combined-cycle unit at Sand Hill Energy Center. The Mark VI system monitors turbine and generator parameters required for unit operation. The current control system is near end of life, and some components being replaced are over 15 years old. The upgraded system will ensure ongoing safe and reliable operation of the unit and improve cyber-security by ensuring the latest versions of firmware and software may be used.

The contractor provided the existing system, preventative maintenance, and required repairs. Austin Energy considered other control system platforms and determined the risk of migrating to a different system was too high, as it would involve a complete redesign of the system at a higher cost.

Strategic Outcome(s):

Government that Works for All.