



APPROVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

MAR 31 1998

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

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DEPARTMENT OF
FINANCE

PROCUREMENT SERVICES DIVISION

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

March 31, 1998

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City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: SUSPENSION OF FORMAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR THE PURCHASE OF SABER ENGINEERING REMOTE SCADA RADIO CONTROL UNITS (PN:XB21)

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: City-wide; All districts

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that City Council adopt the attached Resolution which authorizes the suspension of formal competitive bidding for the purchase of remote Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) radio control units manufactured by Saber Engineering for use in controlling and communicating with pump stations. The Resolution also authorizes standardization on the use of Saber Engineering SCADA units for future purchases and contracts, and authorizes the City Manager to issue the necessary purchase order to Saber Engineering, 1542-Industrial Drive, Auburn, CA 95603, in an amount not to exceed \$155,000.00 for current requirements consisting of the installation of SCADA master and regional radio control units.

CONTACT PERSONS: Paul Sayegh, Water & Sewer Superintendent, 264-5674
Steve Alstrom, Senior Buyer, 433-6343

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: March 31, 1998

SUMMARY:

This report recommends that the City Council authorize the suspension of formal competitive bidding for the purchase of remote Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) radio control units, manufactured by Saber Engineering, for use in controlling and communicating with pump stations. It also recommends that the Council authorize standardization on the use of these units for future purchases and construction contracts.

BACKGROUND:

SCADA radio control units control pump station functions and send information to the Department of Utilities control center. This control center monitors critical information vital to the proper operation of City

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pump stations. Information such as high water levels, pump operation and power failures is transmitted over radio frequency, allowing Utilities staff to provide immediate response when problems occur.

The purchase of Saber Engineering SCADA radio control units is recommended for the following reasons:

- The existing SCADA system is being replaced. This will provide for consistency of equipment, software and programming among all City pump stations.
- Avoid time-delaying “finger-pointing” between different hardware and software vendors when troubleshooting problems. This is especially important during storm events.
- Allow ready interchangeability of control units and spare parts by City personnel when making repairs or replacements.
- Guarantees compatibility and integration with complex SCADA equipment, programming and communications.
- Replaces old units that rely on phone line circuits that frequently fail during wet weather and that are incompatible with newer technology.
- Allows better hardware/software integration with existing SCADA systems because Saber Engineering is certified as an Intellution System Integrator Business Partner. The Department of Utilities uses Intellution software.
- Reduces training costs because staff will only need to be trained in the operation of a single type of unit.

Based on the reasons described above, staff recommends that the Council adopt the attached Resolution which suspends formal competitive bidding for the purchase of Saber Engineering SCADA radio control units and authorizes standardization on these units for future purchases and construction projects. Authorization is requested to make future purchases of the subject units in the quantities necessary and in total dollar amounts as budgeted by the City Council.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Sufficient funds for the current purchase are available in the Sewer and Storm Drainage Capital Improvement budgets (PN:XB21), which has unobligated funding of \$765,692.00 as of March 11, 1998. Contract specifications for new residential and commercial development projects will include the requirements for Saber units.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Office of Environmental Affairs has reviewed the project and has determined that this project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines. “The activity is covered by 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 may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.”

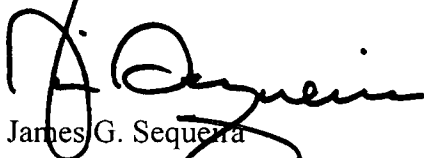
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:


This recommendation is in accordance with the provisions of City Code Section 57.04.401(c), which authorizes suspension of formal competitive bidding upon a two-thirds vote of the City Council. The purchase of Saber Engineering SCADA radio control units will assist staff in achieving increased reliability of the operation of the City's pump stations, helping to provide protection to the City during storm events as well as in normal operations.

MBE/WBE EFFORTS:

Saber Engineering is not a minority/women business enterprise. The need for standardization on the subject SCADA units precludes the use of products from other sources.

Respectfully submitted,


James G. Sequera
Director of Utilities


Robert B. Holbrook
Procurement Services Manager

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:


WILLIAM H. EDGAR
City Manager

1 Attachment

APPROVED
BY THE CITY COUNCIL

MAR 31 1998

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

RESOLUTION NO. 98-100

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF _____

**A RESOLUTION SUSPENDING FORMAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
FOR THE PURCHASE OF SABER ENGINEERING SCADA RADIO CONTROL UNITS**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO THAT:

1. In the best interest of the City of Sacramento, formal competitive bidding is hereby suspended for the purchase of Saber Engineering SCADA radio control units; and
2. The Department of Utilities is authorized to standardize on the use of Saber Engineering SCADA radio control units for future purchases and contracts for the installation and repair of City pump stations; and
3. The City Manager is hereby authorized to issue the necessary purchase order to Saber Engineering, in an amount not to exceed \$155,000.00 for current requirements consisting of the installation of Saber Engineering SCADA master and regional radio control units.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

DATE ADOPTED: _____

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