

**Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**June 11, 2012**

**Contract Award for Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services  
for Fiscal Year 2012/2013**

**Synopsis**

The Board of Directors is requested to award the Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services Contract for FY 2012/2013 to Western Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$50,000.

**Background**

The primary purpose of an open-ended miscellaneous geotechnical testing services contract is to provide geotechnical and materials testing services for work that is too small to justify soliciting separate proposals, or for work that requires a more rapid response than the process of soliciting project specific Statements of Qualification and negotiating a contract will permit.

The Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District (District) has utilized the services of engineering consulting firms under Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services contracts since November 1995. Based on current and anticipated design and construction activities during the next year, the need to continue utilizing consultants for geotechnical & material services will continue, especially with the Pima County/RTA Roadway Improvement Program and other currently funded construction projects.

An advertisement to solicit Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) to provide Professional Engineering Services for Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing from interested engineering design firms was published in *The Daily Territorial* on March 5, 6, 7, 8, & 9, 2012. A committee comprised of three in-house staff was selected to evaluate the proposals received by the District, and to prepare an Engineering Consultant ranking. The results of the evaluation and ranking were presented to the Board at the May 14, 2012 Board of Director's meeting.

**Issues**

At the May 14, 2012 Board of Director's meeting, the Board approved the Engineering Consultant ranking, and directed District staff to proceed with developing an acceptable contract agreement (contract and labor billing rates) with the top ranked firm, Speedie & Associates.

Speedie and Associates submitted proposed billing rates that presented an increase far and above the billing rates of the current Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services consultant for FY 2011/2012. The rates for the most common services utilized by the District were considerably higher with these rates being 71% higher than the current rate. Staff discussed

the rates with Speedie and Associates to determine if lower fees could be negotiated, and although there did appear to be some room for negotiation by Speedie and Associates the reductions discussed were still approximately 32% higher than current rates and were still not low enough for staff to consider awarding the contract to Speedie and Associates. Staff then contacted the second ranked firm, Western Technologies, Inc. to obtain their cost for the services required.

Western Technologies, Inc., is the District's current Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Materials Testing Services consultant for FY 2011/2012. Western Technologies, Inc. has indicated that they will hold their current year's fees over for the next year and each of the subsequent two years of the Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Materials Testing Services contract if extended.

Funding for work under this contract is available from the issuance and sale of Senior Lien Water Revenue Obligations, Series 2011, which the RTA Waterline Relocation fee is used to repay these obligations, the 2007 WIFA monies that occurred with re-prioritization of District project needs, and miscellaneous material testing funds from the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Budget.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Directors award the Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services Contract to Western Technologies, Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$50,000, and a contract completion date of June 30, 2013.

### **Suggested Motion**

I move that the Board of Directors award the Miscellaneous Geotechnical & Material Testing Services Contract to Western Technologies, Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$50,000, and a contract completions date of June 30, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlie A. Maish, P.E., R.L.S.  
District Engineer

I concur with the above-noted recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Stratton, P.E.  
General Manager