

**City of Yuba City
Staff Report**

Date: June 1, 2010
To: Honorable Mayor & Members of the City Council
From: General Services Department
Presentation By: Devin Barber, General Services Director

Summary

Subject: **Waste Activated Sludge Thickening Polymer (FB10-08)**

Recommendation: Award a contract to the low bidder for Rotary Drum Thickener (RDT) polymer to US Polymer of Tupelo, MS in the amount of \$27.07 per ton.

Fiscal Impact: \$81,030: Polymer RDT account 8120-63740. The actual cost may vary based on usage.

Background:

Polymer is a coagulant used to separate solids from water in the thickening process. This polymer is for use on the Rotary Drum Thickener equipment at the Utilities Department's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The use of this polymer is for the specific purpose of removing water and thickening wastewater solids. Thickening is necessary to prevent hydraulic overloading of the next treatment process. Additionally it is necessary for digesters to maintain a temperature of 98 degrees and thicker solids require less energy to maintain the optimum temperature.

Analysis:

General Services worked closely with the Wastewater Treatment Plant personnel to develop specifications and to conduct testing for this purchase. Bids were formally solicited, advertised, and publically opened. Thirteen (13) bid notices were sent out with three (3) vendors responding and testing.

Vendors were first requested to submit resumes. All three vendors submitting were approved and requested to participate in a jar or bench test. All three vendors passed the jar test and were invited to complete full scale testing. The reason for testing was to determine the effectiveness of the polymers to remove water from the wastewater solids. The testing was used to develop a dosage factor; the dosage factor is the amount of polymer (lbs) required to treat and remove water from one ton of solids. The bid specifications indicated the water content allowed in the ton after each treatment. The dosage factor was then used to determine the cost of treating one ton of solid. Vendors were present and a part of the testing.

The bid responses below are shown in price per ton of treated solids.

Vendor	RDT
US Polymer	\$27.07/ton
Polydyne	\$30.83/ton
Ashland	\$31.33/ton

Wastewater Treatment annual estimates for tons treated are 3000 tons.

The contract period is for three (3) years. After the initial three (3) years, the contract will have one (1) renewal opportunity for two (2) years. The contract will not exceed five (5) years.

Fiscal Impact:

81,030: Polymer RDT account 8120-63740. The actual cost may vary based on usage.

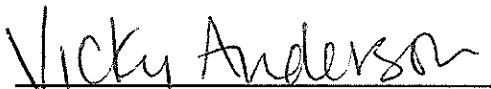
Alternatives:

- 1) Instruct staff to prepare new bid
- 2) Award to alternative firm(s)

Recommendation:

Award a contract to the low bidder for Rotary Drum Thickener (RDT) polymer to US Polymer of Tupelo, MS in the amount of \$27.07 per ton.

Prepared By:



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Submitted By:



Steven R. Jepsen
City Manager

Reviewed By:

Department Head

Public Works

Finance

City Attorney

