



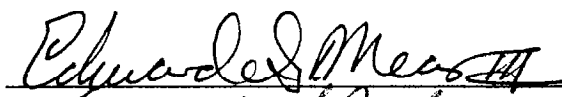
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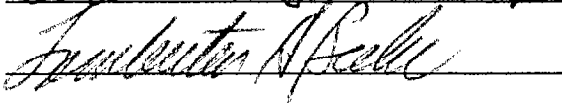
METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

7-4

April 29, 1997

To: Board of Directors (Budget and Finance Committee--Action)

From: General Manager 

Submitted by: Chief Financial Officer
Lambertus Becker 

Subject: Authority to Award Contract to Purchase Digital Microwave Equipment in the Amount of \$291,724

RECOMMENDATION(S)

It is recommended your Board authorize the General Manager to award contract in the amount of \$291,724 (including state sales tax) to Harris Corporation-Farinon Division for digital microwave equipment to complete the first stage of the Digital Microwave Project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Digital Microwave Upgrade Project is to replace the 12-year-old analog microwave system in the desert with modern digital microwave. Metropolitan has determined its requirements for high capacity digital microwave in the Los Angeles Basin. In order to meet present and future requirements, digital systems that meet the 155 megabit/sec SONET (Synchronous Optical Network) standard have been specified for installation between all filtration plants and major administrative installations. The first system will be used to complete the Desert Microwave System from Detention Peak to Weymouth.

After analysis, obtaining specifications, and written quotations from the only two vendors presently shipping this type of equipment in North America, the only bidder to meet specifications is Harris Corporation-Farinon Division ("Harris-Farinon") with the MegaStar-2000 Radio. The MegaStar Radio is SONET OC-3 compliant which makes it an acceptable choice for this application. This purchase amount, including state sales tax, is \$291,724.

Harris-Farinon has agreed, with permission from the County of Los Angeles, to extend the special pricing obtained through competitive bid by the County to Metropolitan's purchases. This pricing makes Farinon the lowest price and will save Metropolitan more than \$100,000 dollars during the second stage of the project.

Contract Type <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Amended Contract Form <input type="checkbox"/> Lease <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Services <input type="checkbox"/> Construction	Funding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capital-Appropriation No. 15282 <input type="checkbox"/> O & M Budget Status <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FY 96-97 Amount <input type="checkbox"/> Out-Year Amount <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Budget Amount	Type of Competition <input type="checkbox"/> Competitive Bidding Specification No. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Negotiated Contract <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Source
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PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

Metropolitan is upgrading the obsolete analog microwave to a modern digital system. This is included in the District's 1996-97 Capital Improvement Program under Appropriation 15282. The District's strategic telecommunications plan calls for an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) wide area network backbone requiring 155mbps communications links. It is necessary to purchase three SONET microwave radio systems for installation at Weymouth, Pleasants Peak, and Detention.

These three radios will provide the final link to the desert digital microwave system. Digital communications equipment has now been installed at Hinds, Eagle, Gene, and Iron Mountain pumping plants. The system cannot be fully operational until linked to core business and operations systems at Weymouth. The purpose of this contract is to provide equipment for that link. Although based on special pricing obtained by the County of Los Angeles through competitive bidding, the contract includes Metropolitan's own negotiated terms and conditions.

The purchase will provide Metropolitan with a SONET standard microwave backbone from the Weymouth Filtration Plant, through Pleasants Peak, to Detention Microwave site. This will complete the desert stage of the digital microwave capital project.

The second and final stage will be replacement of the analog microwave system serving the Diemer, Lake Skinner, Mills, and Lake Mathews facilities and new facilities serving Jensen and Eagle Rock. Upon completion of the upgrades in fiscal 1997-98, the District's facilities will be linked with high capacity digital service. This will greatly enhance communications, both voice and data. Project cost recovery will occur through reduced use of commercial leased lines for communications between District facilities. The project is expected to be completed within the estimated costs of \$4.9 million dollars.

PROJECT PLAN Appropriation 15282, February 1996, funded for First Stage

Stage	Estimated Cost	Completion	Cost Thru June 30, 1997	Cost Thru June 30, 1998
Upgrade Desert Microwave	\$ 2,549,000	80% 4/25/97	\$ 2,200,000	\$ 2,549,000
Upgrade LA Basin Microwave	\$ 2,259,000	6/30/98	\$ 150,000	\$2,259,00
TOTAL	\$ 4,808,000		\$ 2,350,000	\$ 4,808,000

ACTION(S) AND MILESTONE(S)

This stage of the digital microwave project, renewal of the Joint-Use Agreement with Southern California Edison, and installation of equipment in the desert will be completed with the purchase and installation of the equipment being purchased from Harris-Farion. Completion of this portion during the 1996-97 budget cycle will have the project expenditures on track with projections.

MBE/WBE

The MegaStar Radio is a proprietary product available from only one vendor in North America and no work was available for subcontracting. As such, there were no MBE/WBE goals.

CEQA COMPLIANCE/ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as it involves the minor alteration of existing facilities with no expansion of use beyond previously existing.

<p>Plan and Bid Statistics <u>2</u> Bidders Requested Plans <u>2</u> Bids Submitted</p>	<p>Evaluation Criteria Low bid that meets the requirements of the specifications. Bidders qualifications.</p> <p>Contractual Details <input type="checkbox"/> Anticipated Duration <input type="checkbox"/> Hourly Rates <input type="checkbox"/> Prevailing Wage Rates Will Apply</p>
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