

RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Board Memorandum

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2025

SUBJECT: BID NO. SUB-05B PROCUREMENT OF TWO 220 KV CIRCUIT SWITCHERS WITH SIEMENS ENERGY INC., OF RICHLAND, MISSISSIPPI, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$386,901 AND BID NO. SUB-07B PROCUREMENT OF TWO 66 KV CAPACITOR BANKS WITH SOUTHERN STATES LLC. OF HAMPTON, GEORGIA, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,051,069 FOR THE WILDERNESS SUBSTATION

ISSUES:

Consider awarding Bid No. Sub-05B for the procurement of two 220 kV circuit switchers for the Wilderness Substation to Siemens Energy Inc., of Richland, Mississippi, in the amount of \$386,901; and award Bid No. Sub-07B for the procurement of two 66 kV capacitors for the Wilderness Substation to Southern States LLC, of Hampton, Georgia in the amount of \$1,051,069.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Public Utilities:

1. Authorize for the procurement of two 220 kV Circuit Switchers from Bid No. SUB-05B for Wilderness Substation with Siemens Energy Inc., of Richland, Mississippi, in the amount of \$386,901;
2. Authorize for the procurement of two 66 kV Capacitor Banks from Bid No. Sub-07B for Wilderness Substation with Southern States LLC., of Hampton, Georgia, in the amount of \$1,051,069; and
3. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute any documents necessary to effectuate the procurement described herein, as well as the ability to make minor non-substantive changes in alignment with all purchasing policies.

BACKGROUND:

The Riverside Transmission Reliability Project (RTRP) is a joint initiative between Southern California Edison (SCE) and Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) to enhance the reliability and capacity of Riverside's electric utility system. This project will provide RPU with a critical second connection to California's electric transmission grid by linking to the existing 220 kV SCE Mira Loma-Vista line.

As part of the RTRP, SCE will construct the Wildlife Substation, a 220 kV switchyard, and approximately 10 miles of 220 kV double-circuit transmission lines, connecting the Wildlife Substation to the Mira Loma and Vista Substations by looping into the Mira Loma-Vista No. 1-220 kV transmission line. The Wildlife Substation will serve RPU's proposed Wilderness Substation, which will step down the voltage using two power transformers. The Wilderness Substation will then integrate into RPU's 69 kV system, supplying power to Riverside's distribution substations and generating stations to address the city's long-term capacity and reliability needs.

The Board approved the project Work Order No. 642975 on August 24, 2020, in the amount of \$216,515,521. Work Order No. 642975 has sufficient funds for the procurement needs and construction of Wilderness Substation.

The Wilderness Substation is a critical component of the City of Riverside's electrical needs, and long-term capacity and reliability improvements. The substation will include two 220 kV transformers, six new 66 kV transmission lines, two 220 kV circuit switchers, fourteen 66 kV circuit breakers, thirty-four 66 kV disconnect switches, two 66 kV capacitor banks, steel structures, associated hardware, and protection and automation equipment.

The Board approved the procurement of two power transformers for Wilderness Substation on January 13, 2025. Approval is being requested for the procurement of needed equipment - two-220 kV circuit switchers and two 66 kV capacitor banks - due to their long lead time. Future project phases will involve the procurement of the remaining equipment, materials, and construction contracts, which will be presented to the Board for approval at a future date(s).



Typical 220 kV Circuit Switcher



Typical 66 kV Capacitor Banks

DISCUSSION:

RPU's distribution system, including substations uses specialized equipment, that needs to maintain compatibility with the existing infrastructure system. The equipment is often only manufactured or sold by a limited number of vendors. In these cases, invitations to submit bids are directed to the manufacturers or vendors that provide specialty equipment that will be compatible with RPU's infrastructure systems. This is considered to be an informal or negotiated procurement under the City's Purchasing Resolution No. 24101. Because the equipment that will be installed at the Wilderness Substation needs to be compatible with RPU's system and other equipment being installed at the location, the informal procurement process, is consistent with the requirements of the Purchasing Resolution, for the procurement of the needed circuit switchers and capacitor banks.

Bid No. SUB-05B (Two 220 kV Circuit Switchers)

On February 24, 2025, nine (9) vendors were invited to submit bids through an informal procurement process under Request for Bid (RFB) SUB-05B for equipment and materials. Two of the nine vendors submitted bids. Staff evaluated the bids based on pricing and compliance with the bid requirements and determined that Siemens Energy Inc., of Richland, Mississippi, was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The bid price was within the engineering estimate.

| Vendors | City Location | Bid Amount | Rank |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|
| Deloney - Siemens Energy Inc. | Richland, MS | \$386,900.96 | 1 |
| One Source – Southern States | Hampton, GA | \$699,860.63 | 2 |
| Royal – IE | | NO BID | N/A |
| MKireps | | NO BID | N/A |
| Vsshuler | | NO BID | N/A |
| MDHenry | | NO BID | N/A |
| Pacific Utilities | | NO BID | N/A |
| Distran | | NO BID | N/A |
| Hambyyoung | | NO BID | N/A |

➤ *Engineer's Estimate*

\$400,000.00

Bid No. SUB-07B (Two 66 kV Capacitor Banks)

On February 28, 2025, six (6) vendors were invited to submit bids through an informal procurement process under Request for Bid (RFB) SUB-07B procurement process for equipment and materials. Four of the six vendors submitted bids. Staff evaluated the bids based on pricing and compliance with the bid requirements and determined that Southern States, Hampton, Georgia, was the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The bid price was within the engineering estimate.

| Vendors | City Location | Bid Amount | Rank |
|------------------------|---------------------|--|----------|
| Southern States | Hampton, GA | \$1,051,068.75 | 1 |
| GE | Clearwater, FL | \$1,366,667.78 | 2 |
| Hitachi | Canoas – RS, Brazil | \$1,357,564.31 | 3 |
| Siemens | Jundiai, Brazil | \$368,227.50 Disqualified (late submittal after bid closing and non-compliance with spec requirement) | N/A |
| Eaton | | NO BID | N/A |
| Arteche | | NO BID | N/A |

➤ *Engineer's Estimate*

\$1,300,000.00

Purchasing Resolution No. 24101, Section 404 - Utilities Exception, states “The Water, Electric and Sewer Utilities have a need for compatibility within their respective systems for uniform operation, maintenance and replacement, and this need can be met by procuring certain supplies, equipment, and materials supplies through Informal Procurement or Negotiated Procurement.”

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommended actions comply with Purchasing Resolution No. 24101 Section 404.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact is \$1,437,970. Sufficient funds are available in Public Utilities Electrical Capital Account No. 6130000-470685 (RTRP non-reimbursable).

Prepared by: Daniel Honeyfield, Utilities Assistant General Manager/ Energy Delivery
Approved by: David A. Garcia, Utilities General Manager
Certified as to
availability of funds: Kristie Thomas, Finance Director/Assistant Chief Financial Officer
Approved by: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Rebecca McKee-Reimbold, Interim City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Project Site Map
2. Bid recommendations
3. Presentation