



Contra Costa County
**Public Works
Department**

Brian M. Balbas, Director
Deputy Directors
Stephen Kowalewski, Chief
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Joe Yee

July 27, 2023

UPS Overnight-129703141593213778

Fax [510-430-1860]

Columbia Electric, Inc.
1980 Davis St.,
San Leandro, CA 94577

Re: San Pablo Dam Road And Bailey Road Signal Hardware Upgrades
Project No.: 0662-6R4139
State Project No.: HSIPSL 5928(162)

Our office has reviewed the bid and Good Faith Effort documentation submitted by your firm on the above project. Based upon our review, we have determined that your firm's Good Faith Effort documentation does not comply with the requirements of Contra Costa County's Outreach Program, as specified in Section 2-1.12 of the project specifications. We have identified the following deficiencies by your firm in failing to submit required documentation:

1. Documentation of your attendance at the pre-bid meeting on June 26, 2023 or a copy of a previous attendance sheet from a pre-bid meeting or County Construction Workshop within the last twelve months. (Indicator #2, 0 out of 10 points)
2. Documentation identifying specific work items to be performed by subcontractors. (Indicator #3, 0 out of 13 points)
3. Documentation of an advertisement for sub-bids published at least 10 days before bid opening in a qualified newspaper, publication, or journal. (Indicator #4, 0 out of 9 points)
4. Documentation showing that notices indicating your interest in receiving sub-bids were sent or faxed to subcontractors, suppliers, etc. at least 10 days prior to bid opening and that the notices contained the required information (i.e., County project name; name of the bidder; contact person's name, address, and telephone number; information on the availability of plans and specifications; and the bidder's policy concerning assistance with bonds, lines of credit, and insurance). (Indicator #5, 0 out of 10 points)
5. Documentation of telephone follow-up with any of the firms to which your firm sent notices. (Indicator #6, 0 out of 10 points)

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6. Documentation showing that your firm provided information to subcontractors about the plans, specifications, and project requirements. (Indicator #7, 0 out of 5 points)
7. Documentation of requests for assistance in recruiting subcontractors sent to outreach agencies at least 15 days prior to bid opening. (Indicator #8, 0 out of 10 points)
8. Documentation of negotiating in good faith, copies of all bids or quotes received, or a summary sheet organized by work area, listing the bids received, the name of the company that submitted the bid, the dollar amount of the bid and the subcontractor selected for that work area. (Indicator #9, 0 out of 26 points)
9. Documentation of information about the bidder's efforts to assist with bonds, lines of credit, and insurance. (Indicator #10, 0 out of 7 points).

Based upon these deficiencies we have determined that your firm has not documented an adequate Good Faith Effort to comply with the Outreach Program requirements, having achieved 0 points out of 100 points (75 minimum required). Therefore, we plan to recommend that your firm's bid be rejected as non-responsive for failure to comply with the Outreach Program requirements and that the contract be awarded instead to the second lowest bidder, DC Electric Group, Inc., which has fully complied with those requirements, including the 22% Mandatory Subcontracting Minimum (MSM).

Should your firm disagree with our determination, you may appeal it in writing to Monica Nino, County Administrator, c/o County Administrator's Office, 1025 Escobar Street, Martinez, CA 94553, Martinez, CA 94553. Your firm's appeal must be received at that address no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 1, 2023, and must describe in detail all facts and arguments on which your firm relies.

It is anticipated that the contract will be awarded by the Board of Supervisors at its meeting on August 15, 2023, which begins at 9:00 a.m. If you wish, you may appear at the Board meeting to comment on this matter. Any comments to the Board will be limited to the facts and arguments set forth in your firm's appeal.

Sincerely,



Adelina Huerta
Division Manager
Design/Construction Division

AH:RS:kr

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Cc: M. Nino, County Administrator
T. Ewell, County Administrator's Office
D. Schmidt, County Counsel
L. Strobel, County Administrator's Office
A. Wilson, Human Resources
B. Balbas, Public Works Director
S. Kowalewski, Public Works
R. Sanders, Public Works
K. Dahl, Public Works