

RESOLUTION NO. 2021- 235

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH AKRF, MT. LAUREL, NJ FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR AIR PERMITTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$30,000.00.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Vineland has adopted Resolution No. 2021-53, a Resolution pre-qualifying certain firms to submit proposals for as needed Environmental Consulting Services; and

WHEREAS, the Vineland Municipal Electric Utility is in need of Technical Support for Air Permitting and Environmental Compliance; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Vineland Municipal Utilities has recommended that a contract for the required services be awarded to AKRF, Mt. Laurel, NJ, in accordance with Professional Services Contract No. C21-0034 and the AKRF proposal, pursuant to a fair and open process; and

WHEREAS this contract is awarded in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for a contract period of one year from date of award; and

WHEREAS, the availability of funds for said Professional Services Contract to be awarded herein have been certified by the Chief Financial Officer; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contract Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1, et seq) requires that the Resolution authorizing the award of contract for Professional Services without competitive bidding and the contract itself must be available for public inspection.

1. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Vineland that said contract for Technical Support for Air Permitting and Environmental Compliance be awarded to AKRF, Mt. Laurel, NJ, in accordance with Professional Services Contract No. C21-0034 and in accordance with the AKRF proposal, pursuant to a fair and open process, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.

Adopted:

President of Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk

**REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION FOR CONTRACT AWARDS
UNDER 40A:11-5 EXCEPTIONS
(PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, EUS, SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE, ETC)**

May 3, 2021

(DATE)

1. Service (detailed description): Technical Support for Air Permitting and Environmental Compliance (under pre-approved Contract # C21-0034, Vendor # AKRF01)

2. Amount to be Awarded: \$ 30,000.00

- Encumber Total Award
 Encumber by Supplemental Release

3. Amount Budgeted: \$ 30,000.00

4. Budgeted: By Ordinance No. _____
Or Grant: Title & Year _____

5. **Account Number to be Charged: 1-05-55-502-9000-53345-E923

6. Contract Period: One Year

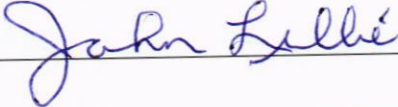
7. Date To Be Awarded: 5-25-2021

8. Recommended Vendor and Address: AKRF, 307 Fellowship Road, Suite 214
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

9. Justification for Vendor Recommendation:(attach additional information for Council review)
Primary personnel to be assigned to contract have most relevant industry
experience. Through previous work done for VMEU, vendor is familiar with
VMEU facilities and permits.

- Non-Fair & Open (Pay-to-Play documents required)
 Fair & Open: How was RFP advertised? C21-0034--vendor #AKRF01

10. Evaluation Performed by: Jeff Davis

11. Approved by: 

12. Attachments:

- Awarding Proposal
 Other: RFP, bidder questions

- **Send copies to:**
Purchasing Division
Business Administration

**** If more than one account #, provide break down**

Vineland Municipal Electric Utility

Environmental Consulting Services Request for Proposals - AIR

Bidder Questions and Responses

April 14, 2021

Question 1: What will be general nature of support required – will the consultant be preparing and filing reports for VMEU?

Response 1: The exact nature of the consulting support required will depend on VMEU's needs as they arise. However, it is anticipated that the majority of the consulting support required (at least 75%) will be in the form of expert guidance and advice.

Except in special circumstances, VMEU personnel will perform all administrative tasks, including compiling necessary data, drafting required official documents and reports, and filing the same with the appropriate entities. With regard to these official documents and reports, the consultant's primary role would consist of expert guidance and advice during the drafting and filing process. This would include reviewing draft documents and reports, and providing comments and/or recommended changes.

Consultant may occasionally be asked to draft certain documents or reports when VMEU is under time and/or personnel-hour constraints, or when VMEU lacks the particular expertise required.

Question 2: What time of day are the proposals due?

Response 2: Please submit the proposal by 4:30 PM (EDT) on April 30, 2021.



SPECIFICATION for TECHNICAL SUPPORT
for
AIR PERMITTING and ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. This specification shall cover the provision of technical support services relating to environmental compliance and air operating permits.
- 1.2. Successful firms/individuals shall be capable of providing, either directly or indirectly through sub-consultants retained at their own expense, technical assistance as outlined in the Scope of Work below.
- 1.3. The specific nature and number of support hours required shall be determined as particular needs arise. Payment shall be made for actual work performed.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

- 2.1. Coordinating with the City
 - 2.1.1. Meeting with City officials when required.
 - 2.1.2. Advising the City regarding environmental issues.
 - 2.1.3. Working with other City professionals and City Officials when required.
 - 2.1.4. Attending various meetings when required by the City.

- 2.2. Providing general environmental consulting services in support of and relating to the following VMEU power generation assets:
 - 2.2.1. Down Unit 11. Down Unit 11 is a RR/Siemens Trent 60 simple cycle combustion turbine combusting either natural gas or ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD).
 - 2.2.2. Clayville Unit 1. Clayville Unit 1 is a RR/Siemens Trent 60 simple cycle combustion turbine combusting natural gas.
 - 2.2.3. West CT. West CT is a Westinghouse 251B simple cycle combustion turbine combusting ULSD).

- 2.3. Providing support for permitting, compliance, and reporting requirements for the above referenced generating units, and other facilities as needed, including:
 - 2.3.1. General Support
 - 2.3.1.1. Evaluating applicability of new regulatory requirements, and recommending compliance strategies.
 - 2.3.1.2. Conducting site audits to assess compliance with existing rules.
 - 2.3.1.3. Interfacing with DEP and EPA permitting and enforcement personnel on behalf of the City with regard to permits and reports.
 - 2.3.2. Air Permitting Support
 - 2.3.2.1. Preparing and submitting permit applications.
 - 2.3.2.2. Conducting and reporting on risk assessments.
 - 2.3.2.3. Maintaining required air emission monitoring systems.
 - 2.3.2.4. Preparing and filing periodic air permit reports to USEPA and NJDEP.
 - 2.3.2.5. Preparing and filing air permit annual compliance certifications.
 - 2.3.2.6. Preparing and filing Federal EIA923 and 860 energy reports.
 - 2.3.2.7. Providing technical support from supplemental staff and specialty experts relating to the following regulatory programs:
 - 2.3.2.7.1. Federal Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD).
 - 2.3.2.7.2. Acid Rain Permits.
 - 2.3.2.7.3. NJDEP Title V Air Operating Permits.
 - 2.3.2.7.4. Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR).

2.3.2.7.5. Regional Green House Gas Initiative (RGGI).

2.3.2.7.6. Others as required.

3. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

- 3.1. Respondent's total proposal cost shall not exceed \$30,000. Estimated costs should be divided approximately as follows:
 - 3.1.1. 35% - Support for periodic reporting and certifications.
 - 3.1.2. 35% - Support for regulatory interpretation and guidance.
 - 3.1.3. 20% - Support for permit applications and risk assessments.
 - 3.1.4. 10% - Other support as required.
- 3.2. Respondent shall propose a plan to provide the work, services and responsibilities as described above, including:
 - 3.2.1. Anticipated types of personnel required.
 - 3.2.2. Hourly rates for each type of personnel.
 - 3.2.3. Estimated hours for each type of personnel.
- 3.3. Respondent shall provide the names and qualifications of the individuals who will be assigned to the Work.



Environmental, Planning, and Engineering Consultants

307 Fellowship Road
Suite 214
Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054
tel: 856 797-9930
fax: 856 797-9932
www.akrf.com

April 30, 2021

Mr. Jeff Davis
Supervising Engineer
Vineland Municipal Electric Utility
57 W. Park Ave. – Suite A
Vineland, NJ 08362

Re: Proposal - Technical Support for Air Permitting and Environmental Compliance for Vineland Municipal Electric Utility (VMEU)

Dear Mr. Davis:

AKRF, Inc. (AKRF) is pleased to present this proposal to Vineland Municipal Electric Utility (VMEU) to provide Technical Support for Air Permitting and Environmental Compliance for VMEU.

Our team of highly experienced professionals—including engineers, scientists, and meteorologists—is known for providing, managing, and supporting air permitting and environmental consulting services for the utility industry in the areas of air permitting, air compliance, air impact analysis (dispersion modeling), emissions estimation and reporting, regional emission inventories, site suitability evaluations, regulatory and policy analysis, emissions netting (if required), control technology analyses, meteorological and climatological investigations, and human health and ecological risk assessments. Our deep technical knowledge, comprehensive resources, strategic work approach, and intimate familiarity with local, state, and federal environmental regulations help us resolve our clients' regulatory challenges quickly and efficiently to satisfy project goals.

SCOPE OF WORK

1. Coordination with the City

Coordination with the Vineland City professionals and officials is a key component to ensuring continued permitting and regulatory compliance. AKRF will coordinate with Vineland City to provide whatever level of support is needed on particular projects and for identification and resolution of environmental issues.

a. Meeting with City officials when required

AKRF's experts are available for any necessary meetings with City officials. The AKRF office is located in Mt. Laurel, NJ, which is typically less than a one-hour drive away. In addition, our proposed staff can be supplemented as necessary by additional qualified personnel working from our New York City office.

b. Advising the City regarding environmental issues

AKRF's consultants have a working familiarity with the New Jersey state regulations and NJDEP policies and practices that arises from many years of continuous involvement in New Jersey projects. Our consultants also have a detailed familiarity with pertinent federal regulations which may affect utility projects, including air permitting programs such as Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) where administration of the federal PSD program has been delegated by EPA to the NJDEP, as well as the completion of Environmental Justice ("EJ") analyses and Endangered Species Act ("ESA") analyses for major New Jersey projects as these studies are now required in the PSD permitting context by the delegation agreement between the NJDEP and EPA.

In addition to air quality, we are fully conversant with NJDEP's water supply, wastewater discharge, pollution prevention, stormwater management, construction dewatering and allocation, and related Clean Water Act (CWA) requirements. AKRF's specialists in site assessment and remediation include a multidisciplinary team of engineers, geologists, scientists, ecologists, hydrogeologists, and geochemists with decades of New Jersey-specific experience; effective relationships with local, State of New Jersey and federal agencies; and a thorough familiarity with New Jersey's environmental and land use regulations.

AKRF professionals are experts in interpreting the practical implications of regulatory changes to clients. We are known for developing innovative methodologies to address unique project conditions with successful negotiation with the regulatory agencies, allowing for flexible permit conditions for our clients.

AKRF will provide technical assistance as necessary associated with existing and new environmental regulations, such as regulations regarding new and revised General Permits, revised regulatory thresholds, fee schedules and other pertinent NJDEP public notices. AKRF will keep VMEU abreast of developing regulatory issues which may affect Facility operations.

c. Working with other City professionals and City Officials when required

AKRF typically works with our client's project management, legal, environmental, engineering and operations team members. We will work with Vineland City professionals and officials to provide whatever level of support is needed on particular projects and for identification and resolution of environmental issues.

d. Attending various meetings when required by the City

As discussed previously, AKRF's experts are available for any necessary meetings; as the proximity of our offices will facilitate AKRF's responsiveness to the City in this requirement.

2. Provide General Environmental Consulting Services in support of and relating to the VMEU generation assets known as Down Unit # 11, the Clayville unit, and West CT

AKRF is very well qualified to provide general environmental consulting services for the City's existing generation assets. This support may range from routine permit maintenance and periodic renewals to permitting of facility modifications. AKRF's air quality consultants have extensive New Jersey experience with combustion turbine electric generation dating back more than 30 years and continuing in the present. Simple cycle installations located in New Jersey where AKRF personnel were involved in the air permitting and dispersion modeling and/or Title V permit modifications and renewals include Units 5, 6, 7 and 8 (dual fuel GE 7EA) at PSEG's Linden Generating Station, Units 12, 13 and 14 (total of 12 GE LM6000 turbines) at PSEG's Kearny Generating Station and Unit 12 at PSEG's Burlington Generating Station (four dual fuel GE LM6000). Our consultants have also been involved in studies of older simple cycle turbines including the practicality of adding water injection, SCR or other controls – especially regarding the environmental effects of the consequent increases in emissions of other pollutants such as PM_{2.5} and CO.

With respect to future/new facilities under consideration, our staff will work closely with the project developers very early in the project to provide environmental input to the siting, conceptual and preliminary design stages. This input is aimed at expediting the eventual permitting process. AKRF can evaluate the proposed action and determine what permitting and study requirements will apply and which regulatory agencies will be involved. In addition to the simple cycle projects identified in the previous paragraph, our staff has also been involved in the permitting and dispersion modeling of roughly 4,000 MW of natural gas-fired combined cycle capacity in the state of New Jersey.

3. Provide support for Permitting, Compliance, and Reporting for the above referenced generating units, and other facilities as needed

AKRF also has a great deal of experience working with VMEU's three electricity generating units. AKRF first began working for VMEU on a facility-wide risk assessment for the West Generating Station in April of 2019. AKRF performed the air quality modeling analysis and submitted both the modeling protocol and modeling report to NJDEP. In December of 2019, NJDEP found that the risk assessment for West Generating Station indicated negligible risk for all modeled pollutants.

AKRF continued its support of VMEU's generating stations in May of 2019, when work began on the Clayville Generating Station Addition of Fuel Oil Firing project. AKRF completed and submitted both the significant air permit modification application and the modeling protocol for the project. Unfortunately, the project was discontinued before NJDEP could complete their review of the two documents.

Currently, AKRF is assisting VMEU with a facility-wide refined risk assessment for the Howard M.

Down Generating Station. Upon completing initial modeling, AKRF submitted the modeling protocol to NJDEP on March 30, 2021. AKRF is currently awaiting NJDEP's review of the protocol, will address any comments from the Department as they arrive, and will finalize the modeling analysis.

a. General Support

i. Evaluating applicability of new regulatory requirements and recommending compliance strategies

AKRF will provide technical assistance as necessary associated with all existing and any new regulatory requirements, such as the Environmental Justice bill (S232) signed by Governor Murphy in September of 2020 which introduces the requirement for an environmental justice analysis for major sources of air pollution. AKRF will work closely with VMEU and the NJDEP on developing recommended compliance strategies for maximum flexibility

ii. Conducting site audits to assess compliance with existing rules

An environmental compliance audit is used to ensure that the processes and procedures being performed at the VMEU's facilities are in compliance with all applicable requirements. AKRF will conduct a site visit to observe operations and to review environmental permits, any new agency correspondence, operating records, recordkeeping and monitoring procedures, and regulatory reporting requirements. The compliance audit would evaluate compliance with both existing and new local, State, and Federal regulations and their applicability to the Facilities.

iii. Interfacing with DEP and EPA permitting and enforcement personnel on behalf of the City with regard to permits and reports

As necessary, AKRF will implement and maintain close coordination with the NJDEP and EPA permitting and enforcement personnel to maintain continuous compliance with permit conditions and reporting requirements. At times it may be necessary to have targeted working sessions around specific points and issues in order to facilitate timely resolution and decision making, keeping records of why key decisions were made and documenting requirements for regulatory compliance. AKRF will work to minimize compliance risks by identifying, scheduling, developing, and vetting all permit documentation through integrated coordination with NJDEP, EPA, and the City.

b. Air Permitting Support

Air permitting of significant power projects is one of AKRF's strengths. In New Jersey, AKRF staff have provided full air permitting services ranging from Significant Modifications of Title V Permits and Prevention of Significant Deterioration ("PSD") applications for new and modified generating units to minor source permitting for smaller projects. Our experience includes various prime movers and fuels. Our role varies by project but typically includes an early evaluation of project design alternatives from an air quality permitting risk standpoint, preparation of the application(s) and supporting technical studies and interfacing with state

and federal agencies. Our team has extensive experience in managing change during the course of major projects since air permitting activities are almost always started prior to the availability of the final facility design requiring frequent and sometimes significant mid-stream corrections in strategies and analyses.

AKRF is completely familiar with the air permitting process for major power generation sources in New Jersey. Our familiarity with federal and New Jersey regulations and policies and our working relationship with the NJDEP and EPA Region II air staff allows us to produce an accurate regulatory applicability analysis and detailed work plan/schedule at the start of each project.

AKRF's broad range of experience ranges from the preparation and submissions of permit applications, conducting and reporting risk assessments (just recently we provided a refined risk assessment for the Howard M. Down Generating Station and the West Generating Station), and the preparation and submission of periodic compliance certification reports to the DEP and EPA.

In any of the areas of services specified by the City, our proposed staff can be supplemented as necessary by additional qualified personnel working from both the Mt. Laurel, New Jersey and our New York City offices. Further, in the unlikely event that even greater personnel resources are required for a large project, AKRF can draw on additional highly qualified personnel from our Philadelphia or Maryland offices.

The AKRF air quality experts proposed for this assignment are highly experienced in the permitting of existing source modifications and new sources under the federal PSD program, the Acid Rain program, the Title V major source operating permit program, the federal CAIR rules (now replaced by CSAPR rules) both in New Jersey and in other states, and with the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

PROPOSED STAFFING

AKRF proposes Ms. Jennifer Franco (Officer) as the Principal-in-Charge and will provide necessary Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) for the contract. Mr. George McComb (Senior Technical Advisor) is proposed as a technical advisor. Mr. Christopher McComb (Professional II) is proposed as the Project Manager and Ms. Sheveta Sharma (Technical Director) will support the air permitting and compliance tasks. The resumes of these personnel are included in Attachment C.

FEE SCHEDULE

The cost to complete the above Scope of Work is **\$30,000**, as shown in Table 1 and broken down by labor category in Attachment B. Since the exact nature of the scope of work cannot be fully ascertained at this time, this cost does not include expenses. If expenses are incurred as a result of site visits and meetings, these will be estimated and billed under a separate budget to be determined and agreed upon at that time. The Scope of Work will be performed on a time and material basis using the Billing Rates in Attachment A and will not be exceeded without prior approval from VMEU. The project will be invoiced monthly.

Table 1			
Task No.	Abbreviated Description	Labor Hours	Estimated Price
3.1.1	Support for Periodic Reporting and Certifications	60	\$10,435
3.1.2	Support for Regulatory Interpretation and Guidance	59	\$10,515
3.1.3	Support for Permit Applications and Risk Assessments	33	\$6,000
3.1.4	Other support, as required	17	\$3,050
TOTAL			\$30,000
Assumptions:			
<p>This Scope of Work and Fee Schedule assume that the majority of the consulting support required (at least 75%) will be in the form of expert guidance and advice. Except in special circumstances, VMEU personnel will perform all administrative tasks, including compiling necessary data, drafting required official documents and reports, and filing the same with the appropriate entities. With regard to these official documents and reports, the consultant's primary role would consist of expert guidance and advice during the drafting and filing process. This would include reviewing draft documents and reports and providing comments and/or recommended changes. Consultant may occasionally be asked to draft certain documents or reports when VMEU is under time and/or personnel-hour constraints, or when VMEU lacks the particular expertise required.</p>			

We look forward to continuing our work with VMEU on your environmental compliance needs. Please feel free to contact me at 646-761-2493/jfranco@akrf.com or Chris McComb at 856-359-7632/cmccomb@akrf.com if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,
AKRF, Inc.



Jennifer M. Franco, PE
Vice President



Christopher McComb
Project Manager/Air Quality Analyst

cc: George McComb (AKRF)

ATTACHMENT A

City of Vineland, NJ	
AKRF Hourly Rate Schedule	
Employee Category	Hourly Rate
Senior Officer	\$240
Officer/Principal Consultant	\$225
Senior Technical Director	\$215
Senior Technical Advisor	\$200
Technical Director	\$190
Senior Professional	\$175
Professional II	\$160
Professional I	\$140
Technical II	\$120
Technical I	\$105
Clerical/Technical Assistant	\$95
Notes:	
1. Out of pocket expenses will be billed on AKRF invoices at 1.10 times actual cost.	
2. These rates are effective as of AKRF's January 2021 billing period and remain effective through December 31, 2021	

ATTACHMENT B

Task	Description	\$225	\$200	\$190	\$160	Total Hours	Total Cost
		Principal-in-Charge	Senior Technical Advisor	Technical Director	Project Manager		
3.1.1	Periodic Reporting and Certifications	3	4	16	37	60	\$10,435
3.1.2	Regulatory Interpretation and Guidance	3	4	24	28	59	\$10,515
3.1.3	Permit Applications and Risk Assessments	4	4	10	15	33	\$6,000
3.1.4	Other Support as Required	2	2	4	9	17	\$3,050
TOTAL		12	14	54	89	169	\$30,000