



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of February 12, 2011

DATE: January 21, 2011

SUBJECT: Approval of an Award of Contract for the Installation of a 60 kilowatt (kW) Solar Photovoltaic (PV) system at Central Library, Invitation to Bid Number 45-11.

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve the Award of Contract Number 45-11 in the amount of two hundred eighty nine thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$289,900) to Aurora Energy, Inc., and approve an allocation not to exceed thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000) as a contingency for change orders, for a total contract authorization of three hundred nineteen thousand, nine hundred dollars (\$319,900).
2. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to execute the contract documents, subject to review of such documents by the County Attorney.

ISSUES: County Board approval is needed to award this construction project.

SUMMARY: This renewable energy project is wholly funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), through the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program administered by U.S. Department of Energy.

BACKGROUND: In its proposal for federal EECBG funds, the County allocated a portion of its block grant monies for a significant renewable energy installation. This project is the implementation of that portion of our EECBG proposal.

The Central library is an ideal County facility for a solar PV installation, as it has a large unshaded flat roof that can collect direct and indirect sunlight in all seasons. Facilities Management and the Arlington Initiative to Reduce Emissions (AIRE) program have reduced electricity consumption at Central Library by 38% since 2000 through efficiency improvements, ensuring that this renewable energy investment is placed on an efficient building. This project will further offset a portion of building electrical consumption. At peak output (60 kW), this solar PV system will cut peak power demand about 15%.

County Manager:

BMD/mjs

County Attorney:

MTN

[Signature]

20.

Staff: Viswanadhan Yallayi, Department of Environmental Services, John Morrill Energy Manager

DISCUSSION: Bids for this solar PV installation were opened on January 20, 2011, under Invitation to Bid number 45-11. A total of five (5) bids were received by the Purchasing Agent as follows:

<u>BIDDERS</u>	<u>BID AMOUNT</u>
1. Aurora Energy, Inc.	\$289,900.00
2. Standard Solar, Inc.	\$302,400.00
3. Urban Grid Solar , Inc.	\$338,983.00
4. Clean Currents Solar	\$372,720.00
5. Siltek, Inc. (dba Sand Energy)	\$441,578.00

The lowest bidder, Aurora Energy, Inc. was found to be a responsible bidder and the bid submitted was responsive to the invitation to Bid Number 45-11. It is recommended that the contract be awarded to Aurora Energy, Inc.

FISCAL IMPACT: Funding is provided through the ARRA/EECBG program funds, account code 313.437405.43564.EECB.ARRA.SOLR. Annual electric cost savings are estimated at \$7,000-\$10,000, depending on prevailing electricity prices.