



Mr. Dan Westin
City of Rochelle
d/b/a RMU
333 Lincoln Highway
PO Box 456
Rochelle, Illinois 61068

07/25/2014

Re: Solar Evaluation of Bids for PV Project Report

Dan:

Summary:

I reviewed the bids received on Tuesday August 22, 2014 and recommend that you offer a contract to *Eagle Point Solar* in the amount \$ 829,000 installed complete, for 313.5 KW of solar PV to be located at the Rochelle Water Treatment plant. Cost per watt is \$2.6443 which is after all the bids reviewed, the best value, and low price bid after a full technical and qualitative review.

I reviewed documents for bid compliance, company experience, and technical data for fit with the location and application. *Eagle Point Solar* had the superior overall rating and was within the budget that was established. I discussed by phone with Eagle Point management some questions I had, and they were cooperative and I would anticipate should be responsive to any adjustments needed as the project progresses if a contract is offered and accepted.

Process:

Five bids were received on or before the due date of the bid, at 10 AM August 22, 2014. All five we opened and prices were announced at that time. There was some inconsistency in the written bids, which required some later review which I completed that evening and reviewed with you, further on Wed at 8:30 AM in the RMU office.

We rejected 3 of the bids at that time.

Glesco Electric was rejected due to offering only a 10 year warranty (it was required to be 25 years) and concerns that product shipped from China might not arrive on time for scheduled completion and for later warranty performance if needed.

Telamon's bid was rejected due to concerns that product shipped from India also effecting on time completion and later warranty performance if need.



Microgrid Solar's bid was later rejected due to that the proposal was substantially in-complete. The bidder further later disclosed that the wrong bid version (a draft that was not reviewed was sent) was submitted in error. In effect we could not fully verify if they had met the deadlines properly.

Though all of the bids had some level of review I fully "drilled down" on the compliance and technical aspects of the two remaining bids.

The price quoted in Morse Electric's bid was \$ 859,039.00 for a 301.6 KW system. \$2.8681 per peak rated watt.

The price quoted in Eagle Point Solar's bid was \$ 829,000.00 for 313.5 KW system 2.6443 per peak rated watt.

The lower price per "PRW" was by Eagle Point Solar.

Both proposals were substantially technically acceptable, though I would have recommended to Morse, all things be equal to have not bid a *single inverter system*, and would have had broken it down into 10 to 20 strings. If a string goes down, all the panels in the string stop operating. In a 10 string system you would lose 10 % of the power while down, rather than 100 %. with a single inverter system. A multi-string system generally is more expensive, but more resilient. Given that that, Morse's cost would likely be higher than actually quoted if a change was requested.

Eagle Point's Solar's layout was a good use of land, and is aesthetically presented in that the rows are even in panel counts as the number of Inverters and rows are the same.

My complement to you and your staff, and the fact that you had soil bores to give guidance to the bidders to the underground structure that needed to deal with, and to avoid potential future misunderstandings that soft wet soils may present latter.

Be assured this will be a good and high quality project.

Best Wishes

Chet Kolodziej

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