

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
DES MOINES, IOWA

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 97-121  
MARCH 17, 1997 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
PURCHASE OF GAS BLENDING SYSTEM AT WASTEWATER RECLAMATION FACILITY	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	KEVIN RIPER FINANCE DIRECTOR

**SYNOPSIS —**

The digester gas produced at the Wastewater Reclamation Facility (WRF) and used to generate electricity has decreased in quality since the loss of the organic load from Monfort. This has contributed to carbon build up in the engines that drive the generators. Invitations to bid on a gas blending system to alleviate this problem were mailed to nine potential bidders. One bid was received from Miller Mechanical Specialties, Des Moines, IA.

**FISCAL IMPACT —**

Funding is available from Engineering, WRF Facility Maintenance, Index 055467.

**RECOMMENDATION —**

Approval of the single bid.

**BACKGROUND —**

Miller Mechanical Specialties has worked with the WRF on the digester gas system in the past, and a proposal to blend natural gas and digester gas was reviewed with them for feasibility and a cost estimate to determine the cost-to-benefit ratio.

Specifications were written generally so that any manufacturer of gas flow meters and control valves could bid. The scope of the bid as small which does not interest large national firms. The invitation was sent to nine potential bidders, but only Miller Mechanical Specialties returned a bid.

The bid received is equivalent to what was justified spending to resolve this issue, and the bidder is experienced and qualified to perform the work. The Engineering Department has reviewed the bid and find it in compliance. Stall recommends approval of the single bid.