



**PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD MEETING  
AGENDA ITEM  
REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, November 12, 2025**

**SUBJECT**

Award of RFP 21-25 Powdered Activated Carbon for Reclamation Facilities

**BACKGROUND**

Powdered activated carbon (PAC) is used to remove organic compounds, trace contaminants, and other impurities from the water. By adsorbing these substances, PAC helps enhance the clarity, odor, and overall quality of reclaimed water. At the Fred Hervey Water Reclamation Facility, this process plays an important role in ensuring that treated water meets high standards for reuse and environmental protection. PAC is necessary to protect the public health and safety of customers.

**PRIOR PSB ACTION**

- On June 8, 2022, the Public Service Board awarded Bid Number 55-22, Powdered Activated Carbon, to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, CarbPure Technologies, LLC, in the estimated annual amount of \$94,500, for a term of one year, with the option for two, one-year extensions.

**UTILITY KPI ALIGNMENT**

Infrastructure Performance

**EVALUATION PROCESS**

EPWater issued RFP 21-25 Powder Activated Carbon for Reclamation Facilities to secure a reliable supply of powdered activated carbon. On September 12, 2025, four proposals were received from ARQ Purification, LLC, Norit Americas Inc., Carbon Activated Corporation and PM Chemical Solutions LLC. A selection committee consisting of three Operations Process Treatment staff evaluated the proposals in accordance with RFP criteria. Both Norit Americas Inc. and ARQ Purification LLC were determined to be the highest ranked proposers that are qualified and responsive and that offer the best value proposals.

The unit cost of \$0.91/lb proposed by Norit Americas Inc., is a 13% decrease in cost while the \$0.99/lb proposed by ARQ Purification LLC., is an 5% decrease as compared to the previous contract.

The solicitation meets the requirements of Rules and Regulations No. 18 Governing Certain El Paso Water Procurements Necessary to Preserve or Protect the Public Health or Safety.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Sufficient funds are available in various accounts. This expenditure is budgeted for FY2025-26.

**PROPOSED ACTION REQUESTED**

Consider and award RFP 21-25 Powdered Activated Carbon for Reclamation Facilities to Norit Americas, Inc. and ARQ Purification LLC. for each vendor to supply powder activated carbon on an as-needed basis at the unit prices proposed, for an estimated annual amount of \$127,400 for Norit Americas Inc., and \$138,600 for ARQ Purification, LLC. The contract for each vendor is for a term of one year with four one-year options to extend; and that the Public Service Board makes the following findings:

- That the Texas public health or safety bidding exemption applies to RFP 21-25;
- That multiple vendors are required to ensure continuity of utility services; and
- That the public notice requirements under Rules and Regulations No. 18 have been satisfied.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED**

- Final Committee Score Sheet
- Affidavit

### EXHIBIT 3 - COMMITTEE SCORE SHEET

**SOLICITATION TITLE:** POWDER ACTIVATED CARBON FOR RECLAMATION FACILITIES

**SOLICITATION NO:** RFP21-25

	MAX POINTS	Norit Americas, Inc.	ARQ Purification, LLC	Carbon Activated Corporation	PM Chemical Solutions, LLC	
1 Cost	30	30	28	27	24	
		\$127,400.00	\$138,600.00	\$142,800.00	\$156,800.00	\$127,400.00
2 Personal	20	14	19	18	16	Lowest Bid
3 Organization	24	22	24	19	18	
4 Respondent Company Profile	26	24	25	23	21	
MAX POINT	100	90	96	87	79	
FINAL RANKING:		2	1	3	4	

  
ANGEL BUSTAMANTE

10/3/2025

Angel Bustamante PE, Wastewater Systems Division Manager

Date



10/3/25

Veronica Garcia, Senior Purchasing Agent

Date

STATE OF TEXAS

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COUNTY OF EL PASO

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**AFFIDAVIT**

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared **GEOFFREY ESPINELI** who being by me duly sworn, deposed as follows:

"My name is **GEOFFREY ESPINELI**. I am over 18 years of age, am of sound mind, capable of making this Affidavit. The facts stated in this Affidavit are within my personal knowledge and are true and correct.

I am currently employed as the Wastewater Systems Division Manager for EL PASO WATER UTILITIES- PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD ("EPWater"). As Wastewater Systems Division Manager, I am familiar with the management and operation of EPWater's water and wastewater systems.

I, **GEOFFREY ESPINELI**, do hereby swear and attest that the following is true and accurate: "*I am familiar with the EPWater wastewater system. RFP 21-25 was issued for the purchase of powdered activated carbon for reclamations facilities. The powdered activated carbon is needed for the treatment of wastewater and is necessary to meet regulatory compliance requirements to ensure the public health and safety of EPWater customers. Multiple vendors are required to ensure continuity of utility services in advance of any single vendor's inability to perform. RFP 21-25 contained language that provided notice to potential bidders of the potential for EPWater to award to more than one bidder.*"

  
AFFIANT

10/30/25

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025.



Lucy Calderon

NOTARY PUBLIC in and for the  
STATE OF TEXAS

PRINTED NAME: Lucy Calderon

My Commission expires: 4/28/28