Business Item

Environment Committee

Committee meeting date: March 24, 2026 **For the Metropolitan Council:** April 8, 2026

Business Item: 2026-54

Purchase of Bulk Bisulfite Chemical, Contract 25P269

District(s), member(s):	All
Policy/legal reference:	FM 14-2 Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
Staff prepared/presented:	Joseph Ward, Assistant Manager Process Engineering, R&D, and Air Quality, 651-602-8302
Division/department:	MCES, Operational Support Services

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 25P269 with Hawkins, Inc. to provide bulk bisulfite chemical at MCES Wastewater Treatment Plants in an amount not to exceed $2,469,390.58.

Background

Sodium bisulfite is an important chemical used at the Metro, Seneca, Blue Lake, and Hastings Water Resource Recovery Facilities. The chemical is used in the disinfection process to dechlorinate the wastewater effluent before discharge.

An Invitation for Bids was advertised on November 4, 2025. Council staff facilitated a public pre-bid meeting that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications, and responded to plan holder inquiries. There were four registered plan holders, two suppliers and two plan rooms.

Procurement facilitated a public bid opening on December 9, 2025, and received one bid in the amount of $2,269,148.

Procurement did not find any indication that the Council's specifications were restrictive and determined there was adequate competition for this project. Hawkins, Inc was determined to be a responsive, responsible bidder and is being recommended for award.

This contract will be for an initial one-year period with an option to extend for four additional one-year periods. The total cost for this service during the term of the contract is dependent on bisulfite usage in the wastewater treatment processes, which is estimated at approximately 194,600 gallons annually. The not to exceed amount includes the estimated cost for the Council to exercise all additional contract extension options and estimated inflation.

Rationale

The execution of a goods contract exceeding $2,000,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive lens analysis

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens, this action advances the outcome of stewardship. Public financial resources will be invested efficiently and effectively to maintain proper operation of the Metropolitan Disposal System which protects the region's natural resources.

Funding

Funds are available in the Metro, Seneca, Blue Lake and Hastings operating budgets.

Small business inclusion

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) thoroughly reviewed this procurement for Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) opportunities in accordance with applicable law and the contract specifications. Upon conclusion of OEEO's research and analysis, no MCUB goal was set