



CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

**Date:** July 14, 2011

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager

**Through:** Wanda S. Page, Deputy City Manager

**From:** David Boyd, Finance Director  
Joseph W. Clark, Financial Operations Manager  
Vicki Westbrook, Assistant Director of Water Management

**Subject:** Bids – Term Contract for Liquid Sodium Hydroxide

### **Executive Summary**

The contract under consideration will furnish/provide the Water Management Department with its estimated two year requirements for Liquid Sodium Hydroxide. Sodium Hydroxide (also known as Caustic Soda) is used for pH adjustment of drinking water.

Brenntag Southeast, Inc. of Durham, North Carolina was the lowest responsive bidder. The total cost of the contract is \$1,017,960.00. Funding for this contract is available from the operating budgets of the Water Management Department (5100P121.720300/Brown Water Treatment Plant and 5100P122.720300/Williams Water Treatment Plant). There are no good alternatives to making this purchase. All bids received were competitive and within budget.

The Equal Opportunity/Equity Assurance Department reviewed the bid submitted by Brenntag Southeast, Inc. of Durham, North Carolina and have determined that they are in compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Opportunities in City Contracting. There were no SDBEs to provide this product.

### **Recommendation**

That the bid for the purchase of Liquid Sodium Hydroxide in the amount of \$1,017,960.00 from Brenntag Southeast, Inc. be approved and the City Manager be authorized to execute all relevant contracts; and,

That the City Manager be authorized to modify the contract before execution provided that modifications do not increase the dollar amount of the contract and are consistent with the general intent of the existing version of the contract.

**Background**

The contract under consideration will furnish/provide the Water Management Department with its estimated two year requirements for Liquid Sodium Hydroxide. Sodium Hydroxide (also known as Caustic Soda) is used for pH adjustment of drinking water.

**Issues/Analysis**

The following bids were received for furnishing Liquid Sodium Hydroxide: (2,000 tons)

COMPANY	BID
Brenntag Southeast, Inc. Durham, NC	*\$1,017,960.00 \$508.98/per ton
Key Chemical Waxhaw, NC	\$1,174,340.00 \$587.17/per ton
Univar Jamestown, NC	\$1,458,000.00 \$729.00/per ton

\*Recommended Bid

**Alternatives**

There are no good alternatives to making this purchase. All bids received were competitive and within budget.

**Financial Impact**

The total cost of the contract is \$1,017,960.00. Funding for this contract is available from the operating budgets of the Water Management Department (5100P121.720300/Brown Water Treatment Plant and 5100P122.720300/Williams Water Treatment Plant).

**SDBE Summary**

The Equal Opportunity/Equity Assurance Department reviewed the bid submitted by Brenntag Southeast, Inc. of Durham, North Carolina and have determined that they are in compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Opportunities in City Contracting.

**SDBE REQUIREMENTS**

There were no SDBEs to provide this product.

## **WORKFORCE STATISTICS**

The workforce statistics for Brenntag Southeast, Inc. are as follows:

Total Workforce	117	100%
Total Females	33	28%
Total Males	84	72%
Black Males	43	37%
White Males	38	32%
Other Males	3	3%
Black Females	3	3%
White Females	30	25%
Other Females	0	0%