

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

| |
|----------|
| CC 12 |
| 12/11/12 |
| MVB |

Date: December 11, 2012

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Brian S. Ludicke, Planning Director

Subject: **Authorization to retain RBF Consulting for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for Del Sur Greenworks Solar Project (CUP 12-15), approximately 1,287 acres generally bounded by Avenue H, Avenue F, 95th Street West, and 110th Street West**

Recommendation:

Authorize the retention of RBF Consulting for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report for the Del Sur Greenworks Solar project and related development applications on approximately 1,287 acres generally bounded by Avenue H, Avenue F, 95th Street West and 110th Street West.

Fiscal Impact:

\$287,330, which includes a 10% contingency fee of \$26,121 all to be paid by applicant, for consultant services to prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the proposed project. The applicant would also be required to pay a \$25,000 deposit to cover the City administrative costs.

Discussion:

Silverado Power, LLC has filed a conditional use permit (CUP 12-15) for the development of 330 megawatts (MW) of photovoltaic solar power on approximately 1,052 acres. Potential future phases of solar development would bring the total acreage to 1,287 acres. Due to the size of the proposed project, the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is required as part of the approval process.

On October 17, 2012, a request for proposals (RFP) for the preparation of an EIR for the proposed project was sent out for consideration to 11 environmental consulting firms. A non-mandatory pre-bid meeting was held on November 1, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Seven consulting firms attended the pre-bid meeting. An additional firm also contacted the City and requested a copy of the RFP bringing the total number of firms receiving the RFP to 12. Nine proposals were submitted to the City by the deadline of 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 9, 2012. Staff reviewed the consultant proposals and is recommending that the City retain the services of RBF Consulting to prepare the EIR. RBF Consulting has the relevant experience and staff expertise to ensure the successful completion of the EIR process in a timely fashion.

Council authorization at this time would allow staff to proceed with an agreement for services between the City and the consultant for the preparation of the EIR.

Attachment:

Proposal (on file in the City Clerk Department)