

City of Merced Pam Whala - Purchasing Agent 2525 "O" Street Merced, CA 95340

Ms. Whala,

Prominent Systems, Inc. protests the characterization of our bid on Project No. 115048 as non-responsive and protests the award of the bid to Evoqua Water Technologies.

According to a telephone conversation with Mr. Joe Angeulo, Prominent Systems, Inc.'s bid was deemed non-responsive because we did not bid to supply reactivated carbon. The bid instructions do not specially require that the bidder must bid all three line items.

Prominent Systems, Inc. did not bid on line item # 2 to "Remove, Reactivate/Destroy Spent GAC and then Furnish and Install Reactivated GAC" because we do not have the ability to provide custom reactivated carbon that meets NSF 61-2012 standards for potable water. However, even without supplying reactivated carbon our bid was lower than Evoqua Water Technologies bid by \$24,800.00 when using virgin GAC in lieu of reactivated GAC for line item # 2.

By disallowing Prominent Systems, Inc.'s bid the City is incurring increased cost and lower efficiency in water treatment plant operations. Prominent Systems, Inc. requests that the City reconsider our bid and that we be awarded the bid as the lowest bidder.

James Harvey

Account Manager.