To: Chair Cristol and the VRE Operations Board
From: Doug Allen
Date: September 20, 2019
Re: Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposals for Renewal of Locomotive Head End Power Engine Systems

Recommendation:
The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Renewal of Locomotive Head End Power Engine Systems.

Summary:
The VRE Operations Board adopted a Lifecycle Maintenance (LCM) strategy for VRE rolling stock in January 2014 to maintain VRE locomotives and passenger railcars at the highest level of reliability throughout the equipment lifecycle. This resolution will authorize the solicitation of proposals for the Renewal of Locomotive Head End Power (HEP) Engine Systems for VRE's fleet of MP36 Locomotives.

Background:
VRE purchased 20 MP36 locomotives between 2010 and 2011. Each locomotive utilizes one HEP. The HEP provides the electrical power to air conditioning, lights, safety systems and other electrical functions for the VRE rolling stock. Under VRE's LCM program these HEPs require rehabilitation to address wear of critical components to ensure safe and reliable operation.

As determined in accordance with VRE Public Procurement Policies and Procedures, an Invitation for Bids (IFB) is neither practicable nor fiscally advantageous to VRE and an RFP is the preferred method of procurement for this solicitation since there are different approaches to the desired service and an evaluation of technical merit is required.
Upon completion of evaluation of proposals, negotiations are conducted with the two highest ranked firms deemed to be fully qualified and best suited among those submitting Proposals, based on the factors specified in the evaluation criteria. Price will be considered in context of technical performance for this service to achieve a best value determination. After receipt of the best and final offer from the top-ranked firm, a cost analysis is performed to compare the proposed cost with the independent cost estimate to determine the proposed cost is fair and reasonable.

The scope of work for the RFP includes engine renewal, generator renewal, HEP control system upgrade and electric fuel priming upgrade. The scope also includes onsite replacement and will provide technical training and full support through the warranty period.

Upon receipt and evaluation of the proposals, staff will return to the Operations Board for authorization to execute the contract.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Authorization to issue an RFP has no fiscal impact. Once a contract is awarded, funding for the Head End Power Engines Systems will be provided through Federal formula funds (Section 5337 – State of Good Repair).
Virginia Railway Express  
Operations Board  

Resolution  
8B-09-2019

Authorization to Issue a Request for Proposals for Renewal of Locomotive Head End Power Engine Systems

WHEREAS, VRE purchased 20 MP36 locomotive between 2010 and 2011; and,

WHEREAS, the VRE Operations Board adopted a Lifecycle Maintenance strategy for VRE rolling stock in January 2014 to maintain VRE locomotives and passenger railcars at the highest level of reliability throughout the equipment lifecycle; and,

WHEREAS, the locomotive head end power engine system provides the electrical power to air conditioning, lights, safety systems and other electrical functions for the VRE rolling stock; and,

WHEREAS, head end power engine system require rehabilitation to address wear of critical components to ensure safe and reliable operation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby acknowledge the determination made by the VRE Contract Administrator in accordance with the VRE Public Procurement Policies and Procedures that competitive bidding is not practicable, nor fiscally advantageous to VRE, and competitive negotiation is the appropriate method to procure these services; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue a Request for Proposals for Renewal of Locomotive Head End Power Engine Systems.

Approved this 20th day September of 2019

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Katie Cristol  
Chair

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John Cook  
Secretary