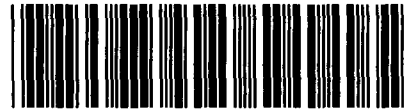


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GVNW CONSULTING, INC.

1001 WATER STREET, STE. A-100
KERRVILLE, TX 78028
TEL 830.896.5200
FAX 830.896.5202

RECEIVED
2018 DEC 31 PM 12:43
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
FILING CLERK

December 28, 2018

Filing Clerk
Public Utility Commission of Texas
1701 North Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701

Re: Project No. 30240 – Annual Progress Reports on Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity – 2018 Report

Dear Filing Clerk:

On behalf of Grayson Collin Communications (“Grayson”), and pursuant to 16 TAC § 26.85(e), please find enclosed for filing in the above-referenced project an original and three (3) copies of the 2018 Annual Progress Report on the Five-Year Plan to Enhance Supplier and Workforce Diversity.

Consistent with 16 TAC §26.85(e), copies of this report are also being provided to: The Governor’s Office, The Lt. Governor’s Office, The Texas House of Representatives, The Texas Legislative Black Caucus, The Texas Senate Hispanic Caucus, and The Mexican-American Legislative Caucus.

Please feel free to contact me at 830.895.7221 or cspears@gwnw.com with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Courtney Spears
Authorized Representative for
Grayson Collin Communications

cc: w/attachment The Governor’s Office
 The Lt. Governor’s Office
 The Texas House of Representatives
 The Texas Legislative Black Caucus
 The Texas Senate Hispanic Caucus
 The Mexican-American Legislative Caucus

3066

WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER DIVERSITY FORM
WORKFORCE DIVERSITY

Project No. 30240 for Reporting Period October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018

Sales Workers	2	1	1	1	1								
Office and Clerical	8	4	4	4	4								
Craft Workers (Skilled)	0	0	0										
Operatives (Semi-skilled)	3	3	0	3									
Laborers (Unskilled)	0	0	0										
Service Workers	0	0	0										
Previous Year Totals	25	18	7	17	6	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
This Year Totals	26	19	7	18	6	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0

NOTE: Double-click on embedded Excel chart to open. Click on a cell or use arrow keys to select an occupational category and ethnic group to update workforce diversity numbers. Do not enter information in Combined Total and Company Totals columns or the This Year Totals row as these will update automatically. Cells left blank will be counted as zero. Click anywhere outside of chart to exit.

WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER DIVERSITY FORM
HUB/SMALL BUSINESS PROCUREMENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL COMPANY PROCUREMENT

Actual % = [Total HUB(1) procurement + Total Small Business(2) procurement]/Total Company procurement	Actual % for Previous FY	Actual % for Current FY	Percentage Change
Construction Contracts (3)	27.0000%	27.0000%	0.00%
Commodities Contracts (4)	36.0000%	47.0000%	30.56%
Other Services (5)	2.0000%	2.0000%	0.00%
Professional Services Contracts (6)	0.0000%	0.0000%	%
Major Equipment (7)	0.0000%	0.0000%	%
Other (8)	0.0000%	0.0000%	%

(1) **HUB** -- Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 481.191(4), HUB means: (A) a corporation formed for the purpose of making a profit in which at least 51 percent of all classes of the shares of stock or other equitable securities is owned by one or more persons who are members of certain groups, including black Americans, Hispanic Americans, women, Asian Pacific Americans, and American Indians; (B) a sole proprietorship formed for the purpose of making a profit that is 100 percent owned, operated, and controlled by a person described by Paragraph (A) of this subdivision; (C) a partnership formed for the purpose of making a profit in which 51 percent of the assets and interest in the partnership is owned by one or more persons described by Paragraph (A) of this subdivision. Those persons must have proportionate interest and demonstrate active participation in the control, operation, and management of the partnership's affairs; or (D) a joint venture in which each entity in the joint venture is a historically underutilized business under this subdivision.

(2) **Small Business** -- Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 481.191(6), Small Business means a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other legal entity that: (A) is domiciled in this state; (B) is formed to make a profit; (C) is independently owned and operated; and (D) employs fewer than 100 full-time employees.

(3) **Construction** -- Construction done by general contractors and special trade contractors which includes new work, additions, alterations, reconstruction, installations, repairs, remodeling, renovating, and repair of office buildings. Heavy construction other than buildings such as pipelines, communication and power lines, sewer and water mains, asphalt and concrete construction of roads, trenching, cable laying, conduit construction, land clearing and leveling.

(4) **Commodities** -- All materials, goods or tangibles purchased to conduct business, not including fuel or purchased power contracts and major equipment purchases and rentals.

(5) **Others Services** -- All specialty work, special circumstances that required contract labor, special consultants or other non-defined services. Examples include audio/visual, staffing services, landscaping, forestry, tree trimming, art and decorative services, janitorial, travel/lodging, automotive repair, and photography.

(6) **Professional Services** -- Contracted professional services which include legal, consulting, health, engineering, accounting, advertising/marketing, architectural, real estate, computer services, research and analysis, education/training, insurance, surveying services, weather services, environmental, financial, etc.

(7) **Major Equipment** -- Includes all major equipment purchases and rentals including but not limited to transmission and distribution equipment, power plant equipment, substation equipment, heavy construction equipment, fleet requirements, etc.

(8) **Other** -- Any commodity or service not covered by the above categories.

WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER DIVERSITY FORM COMPANY INITIATIVES

(1) Describe the specific initiatives, programs, and activities undertaken under the plan during the preceding year:

Grayson Collin Communications ("Grayson") maintains a commitment to employ a diverse workforce with focus placed on recruiting, training, and employing individuals with the education and skill-sets needed from within the local community.

Grayson strives to utilize historically underutilized businesses ("HUBs") for the procurement of goods and services, especially when the HUB is affiliated or located within its local or surrounding communities. Grayson strives to stay abreast of the availability of certain products, services and businesses that qualify under the HUB definition through community resource participation and involvement and through use of the state's HUB directory. Grayson also strives to communicate to the HUB community the opportunities for doing business with them. This initiative will continue to be promoted by local participation and communication with organizations that HUBs belong to, as well as posting of applicable information for HUBs that are independently investigating products or contract opportunities.

Grayson also intends to utilize small businesses other than those defined as HUBs in the procurement of goods and services. With Grayson's emphasis on utilizing and promoting local or surrounding area business economic growth, Grayson plans to continue its involvement in local, county, and state organizations that promote the use of small businesses.

Listed below are Grayson's specific programs and activities to achieve the initiatives stated above, and the progress of each during October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018.

1. Identify local organizations with minority membership emphasis and communicate through these organizations employment opportunities with Grayson.
 - Grayson was unable to identify any local organization with minority emphasis during October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018, but will continue with its effort to do so in the future.
2. Identify local organizations with female membership emphasis and communicate through these organizations employment opportunities with Grayson.
 - Grayson was unable to identify any local organizations with female membership emphasis during October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018, but will continue with its effort to do so in the future.
3. Identify local educational institutions, and communicate through the educational employment outreach programs for employment opportunities available for minority and female students. Attempt to work with educational institutions to establish a work-for-credit intern program. These types of programs may be established through the local high school and community or surrounding area colleges.
 - Grayson was unable to identify any local educational institution with outreach programs during October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018, but plans to continue this effort next year.
4. Offer available work-related training to employees.
 - Grayson utilized industry provided technical and commercial training for employees during October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018.
5. Offer available advancement opportunities to employees.
 - Grayson continues to train its current employees for increased responsibility.

WORKFORCE AND SUPPLIER DIVERSITY FORM COMPANY INITIATIVES

(2) Make an assessment of the success of each of the specific initiatives, programs, and activities listed above:

Grayson, whenever possible, contracts with local businesses to provide the goods and services that are available in Grayson's serving area and surrounding communities. At this time, Grayson is not engaged in any business partnerships or joint ventures. Initiatives in this area will be taken under consideration by Grayson's management staff. If no conflict with current Company policy or By-Law provision exists, Grayson may seek to incorporate this initiative into its future business plans.

(3) Describe the initiatives, programs, and activities the utility will pursue during the next year to increase the diversity of its workforce and contracting opportunities for small and historically underutilized businesses:

The management and employees of Grayson Collin will continue to seek opportunities to make progress in the areas of diversifying the workforce and utilizing the products and services of small and historically underutilized businesses. However, Grayson Collin maintains a strong commitment to employing and purchasing within the rural and remote communities we serve, when and where possible. As a small, rural telephone company, it recognizes a fiduciary duty and responsibility to our community neighbors to make good, sound economic policy decisions as well as our community responsibility to purchase goods and services within our own communities when possible. By the very nature of the rural areas we serve, we are sometimes limited in the local availability of certain telecommunications equipment and products and must go outside our communities for these mandatory purchases. Grayson Collin, whenever possible, contracts with local businesses to provide the goods and services that are available in our serving area and surrounding communities.

(4) State the specific progress made under the plan filed by the utility:

Grayson Collin is a small and rural telephone company providing services in a remote and sparsely populated area of Texas that has used its modest procurements to benefit small business and the community. Grayson Collin has made progress in the area of workforce diversity and utilization of HUBs and Small Business. It is difficult to assess these objectives since employment is stable and contracting opportunity is limited. Grayson Collin has implemented business practices to communicate the diversity plan to minorities and females, as well as HUBs and Small Business, regarding employment and contract opportunities.

Grayson Collin believes its workforce will remain relatively stable or with modest growth potential within the foreseeable future.