



OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

March 1, 2011

Maryland Public Service Commission
William Donald Schaefer Tower
Attn: Ms. Terry J. Romine
Executive Secretary
6 St. Paul Street – 16th Floor
Baltimore, MD 21202-6806

RE: Choptank Electric Cooperative 2011 Annual Plan as required by the Memorandum of Understanding dated July 15, 2009 (PC16)

Dear Ms. Romine:

In accordance with Section 6 of the Memorandum of Understanding dated July 15, 2009 between the Commission and Choptank Electric Cooperative, enclosed please find the original and seventeen (17) copies of the Choptank Electric Cooperative 2011 Supplier Diversity Annual Plan.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

Best regards,

Lisa H. Wothers
Manager, Finance & Regulatory Affairs

Enclosure



Choptank Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Annual Plan for Calendar Year 2011
Minority, Women and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned
Business Enterprises
January 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011

The following is hereby submitted as an “Annual Plan” pursuant to the State of Maryland Public Service Commission Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), signed on July 15, 2009. This Plan is submitted for the consideration of the Maryland Public Service Commission by Choptank Electric Cooperative (Choptank).

This plan will be in effect for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

Choptank will continue its internal and external outreach efforts to identify and develop diverse suppliers for participation in the Choptank’s Diverse Supplier procurement program with a special emphasis on promoting contracting opportunities with Maryland diverse suppliers.

Annual Plan (MOU §6):

1. A description of Diverse Supplier program activities planned for the next calendar year. (MOU §6.1.1):

- a. Attend monthly/bi-monthly Maryland Utility Forum meetings and actively participate in achieving the following 2011 Maryland Utility Forum goals:
 - i. Participate with Maryland Utility Forum group to develop a formal group with rules, officer descriptions and functions, and operating procedures.
 - ii. Work with the Forum to establish a common methodology to assess the accuracy of Tier 2 spend.
- b. The Choptank Supply Chain Manager will work with the Forum and individual lines of business to propose goals, monitor progress, highlight success, communicate areas of opportunity and meet with suppliers and internal customers to explore additional areas of opportunity.
- c. Choptank’s staff will encourage participation of strategic sourcing partners in business and advocacy group training such as the National Minority Supplier Development Council Conference, the MD/DC Minority Supplier Development Council events, other regional Council events, opportunity fairs, seminars and conferences, to ensure:
 - i. Maximum level of opportunities for diverse suppliers
 - ii. Expanded contracting opportunities
 - iii. Discussions on the use of local Maryland based minority-owned businesses to meet the Choptank’s operating requirements
 - iv. Understanding of the MOU for supplier diversity
- d. Meetings and discussions will be held with Choptank employees to:
 - i. Offer Supplier Diversity resources in identifying and qualifying Diverse Suppliers for contracting opportunities
 - ii. Discuss Supplier Diversity program enhancements and changes in policies and procedures
 - iii. Provide referrals to lines of business
 - iv. Provide annual progress of target and corporate goals

- v. Solicit input on how to further improve or enhance the program
 - vi. Implement changes to enhance the program
 - vii. Insure that future RFP's include information with regard to MBE census collection
- e. Choptank Staff supports a wide range of outreach efforts. These activities are designed to identify and maximize contracting opportunities. Choptank Staff plans to participate in conferences, trade shows, and workshops when available.
 - f. Choptank Staff invites and encourages participation in the outreach initiatives and actively promotes the use of diverse suppliers in Maryland. Choptank Staff will participate in events during 2011 to ensure the maximum level of promotion of opportunities for Maryland minority-owned businesses. A sample of groups to promote contracting opportunities with Maryland minority-owned businesses includes the following:

MD Minority Supplier Development Council
 County Chambers of Commerce on the Delmarva Peninsula
 Maryland Chamber of Commerce

- g. Choptank Staff will investigate participation in regional and national organizations advocating diverse supplier development and actively encourages participation by local businesses in these organizations' activities to expand their business opportunities. Samples of these organizations are listed below.

National Minority Supplier Development Council
 National Association of Minority Contractors
 WEBANC

2. Plans for recruiting Diverse Suppliers of products and services where utilization has been low (MOU §6.1.2) and Plans for seeking and/or recruiting Diverse Suppliers of products or services where Diverse Suppliers are currently unavailable (MOU §6.1.3):

- a. Choptank will continue to use the NAICS material group code method to maximize use of diverse suppliers for the Cooperative.
- b. Continued sessions with Choptank employees to ensure understanding of the goals and to identify and expand areas of opportunity for diverse suppliers.
- c. Choptank Staff will cooperate with Utility Forum members and 1st Tier suppliers in identifying program suppliers to support the Choptank's operations. Newly identified contracting opportunities will be communicated to the Supply Chain Manager.
- d. Construction projects will continue to encourage the use of diverse suppliers as prime contractors and to encourage majority contractors/suppliers to develop and use diverse suppliers.
- e. Choptank will continue its efforts to seek resources for opportunities with Maryland diverse suppliers in professional services and financing opportunities as appropriate.
- f. The cooperative web site www.choptankelectric.com will be developed during 2011 and will have a link for Supplier Diversity.

3. Plans for encouraging Prime Contractors to engage Diverse Suppliers in subcontracts that include subcontracting opportunities(MOU §6.1.4):

Choptank will hold meetings with Primes to make them aware of the MOU.

4. Plans for complying with the Diverse Supplier program guidelines established by the Commission (MOU §6.1.5):

- a. Choptank has initiated the implementation of a reporting and tracking system that will provide spend information from Choptank’s contractors to identify diverse supplier spending.
- b. Choptank will review its database and continue to identify possible candidates for MBE certification. Choptank will follow through on any diverse suppliers without current certifications where the spend is to exceed \$25,000.
- c. Choptank will meet with other Maryland utilities and industry contacts in an effort to increase supplier diversity awareness and further enhance the Supplier Diversity initiative.
- d. Submit the Annual Reports as outlined in Section 6 of the MOU.

Choptank will work towards continually increasing its total percent spend with minority, women and service disabled veterans to attempt to accomplish the 25% goal. The mid term and long term goals as summarized below reflect increases over the next five year period.

Diverse Suppliers		Mid	Long
Choptank	2011	(3 yr.)	5 (yr.)
Minority		1.000%	2.000%
Women		2.000%	4.000%
Service Disabled Veteran		0.002%	0.500%
Total		3.002%	6.500%