



For Immediate Release
June 20, 2003

CONTACT:
Felicia Griffin
Communications Manager
Office: (713) 670-2644 Cell: (713) 594-5620
fgriffin@poha.com

Argentina M. James
Director of Public Affairs
Office: (713) 670-2568 Cell: (713) 306-6822
ajames@poha.com

PORT AUTHORITY COMMISSION CONSIDERS BAYPORT SECURITY

HOUSTON – The Port of Houston Authority (PHA) Commission will consider several recommendations involving contract awards, bids and proposals, professional services and general administrative and operational matters during its monthly meeting at 2 p.m. on Monday, June 23. Chairman Jim Edmonds will preside over the meeting in the board room at the PHA Executive Office Building, located at 111 East Loop North.

Bayport Matters

The commissioners will consider an inter-governmental agreement with the City of Shoreacres for the provision of security services at Bayport. Pending commission approval, the \$19,600 annual cost for the services would be paid in quarterly installments of \$4,900.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released its final environmental impact statement (FEIS) on the proposed Bayport project on May 16. The public comment period on the FEIS is scheduled to close on July 16. The USACE will consider public comments on the FEIS in the finalization of its Record of Decision (ROD), which is expected in late August. The ROD will authorize one of three actions related to a construction permit for Bayport: 1) issuance of the permit, 2) issuance of the permit with modifications or conditions, or 3) denial of the permit. The USACE's permit decision is expected to be announced in September.

“Although no work will be performed and no spending will be authorized until and unless the corps approves the project, beginning the process now of advertising for and receiving CSPs, bids, and quotes will save time and money when we are authorized to begin construction,” stated Chairman Edmonds. The entire bidding and contracting process can take six to eight months from the time bids are submitted, evaluated by staff, reviewed by commissioners, and then awarded.

Container Yard Cranes

The commissioners will consider a recommendation to award a contract to Konecranes VLC Corporation in the estimated amount of \$7.4 million for five diesel electric container yard cranes for Barbours Cut and the proposed Bayport Container and Cruise Terminal. Konecranes was among five firms that submitted proposals.

Pipeline Matters

The commissioners will consider a recommendation to partially transfer and assign a PHA pipeline license from Chevron U.S.A., Inc. to Dynegy Midstream Services, L.P. If approved, the transfer will cover four eight-inch pipelines located below and across the Houston Ship Channel.

Emergency Command Center

The commissioners will consider a recommendation to obtain approval of plans and specifications and authority to advertise and receive competitive sealed proposals (CSPs) for the PHA emergency command center. The cost is expected to range between \$1.8 million and \$3 million. Under terms of a contract previously awarded, Black and Veatch completed the plans and specifications for renovating and strengthening the existing building and installing an integrated communications and monitoring station and dispatch center for the PHA Police Department. This project is being funded by a \$1.5 million federal port security grant.

#

About the Port of Houston Authority

The Port of Houston Authority owns and operates the public facilities located along the Port of Houston, the 25-mile long complex of diversified public and private facilities designed for handling general cargo, containers, grain and other dry bulk materials, project and heavy lift cargo, and other types of cargo. Each year, more than 6,600 vessels call at the port, which ranks first in the U.S. in foreign waterborne tonnage, second in overall total tonnage, and sixth largest in the world. The Port Authority plays a vital role in ensuring navigational safety along the Houston Ship Channel, which has been instrumental in Houston's development as a center of international trade. The Barbours Cut Container Terminal and Central Maintenance Facility are the first of any U.S. port facilities to develop and implement an innovative Environmental Management System that meets the rigorous standards of ISO 14001. Additionally, the port is an approved delivery point for Coffee "C" futures contracts traded on the New York Board of Trade's Coffee, Sugar & Cocoa Exchange. For more information, please visit www.portofhouston.com