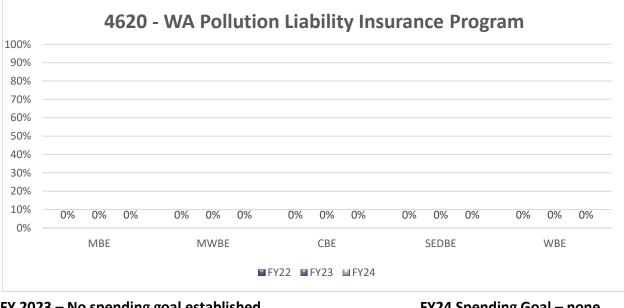




FY25 Business Diversity Spending Goal Plan – Pollution Liability Insurance Agency Governor's Supplier Diversity Subcabinet approved best practices

(Agency graph showing spend comparison from FY23 and FY24)



FY 2023 – No spending goal established FY 2023 – %

FY24 Spending Goal – none FY24 Actual Spend – subject to change

FY25 Spending Goal: 10.00%

Summary Statement:

Pollution Liability Insurance Agency (PLIA) is a growing agency with a goal of having 33.01% of our contracts awarded to OMWBE certified businesses in FY 2025. We are currently in the process of hiring our first Contract Specialist. Our new Contract Specialist will be well versed in the rules and regulations and will take all available diversity spending trainings. Most of our contracts are in the highly specialized field of Environmental Consultants cleaning up petroleum releases from underground storage tanks. This is a highly specialized area with limited contract options. The new Contract Specialist will do a detailed review of all our contracts and procurements, conduct market research and targeted outreach to maximize the use of OMWBE certified business.

Steps your agency has completed to prepare for forecasting and steps remaining:

Our agency has developed a list of anticipated contracts for the upcoming year. We anticipate contracts in Environmental Consulting Services and Infrastructure. This information will soon be available on our website. We are working on a list of places to post or send any solicitations to that will increase exposure to OMWBE type businesses even if they are not yet certified. Once our new Contracts Specialist starts, they will inventory our current contracts and review our procurements to maximize the use of OMWBE certified businesses. They will conduct market research and develop a communication strategy to reach OMWBE certified businesses and encourage businesses we currently contract with to become OMWBE certified if they qualify.

How are supplier diversity efforts managed within your agency:

Currently our Administrative Services Manager handles our contracts and procurements. We first look for OMWBE certified businesses if they are available. We have been working on unbundling our contract postings and conducting a detailed evaluation of our current spending to better maximize the use of OMWBE certified businesses. With the hiring of a Contracts Specialists, we will, for the first time, have a full-time employee whose time is dedicated to researching and engaging in outreach to attract and encourage more businesses to bid or to become OMWBE certified and to maximize our spending with OMWBE certified businesses. This person will also conduct a detailed audit of our procurements and current contracts to identify any spending that can be redirected to OMWBE certified businesses.

Is your agency currently using the Outreach Module in Access Equity for marketing and connecting with Diverse Businesses? No

Are you using the Contract Compliance module in Access Equity to report your contract & purchase orders that include subcontractors (including statewide contracts)?

No

How does your agency track efforts to notify businesses about purchasing and opportunities to bid on contracts?

One of the first jobs of our new Contracts Specialist will be to refine our tracking method and to assess our spending and our outreach to ensure we are maximizing our outreach to and utilization of OMWBE certified businesses. Historically our agency has primarily used statewide contracts for purchases. We use OMWBE certified business, when available. Our upcoming contracts are in the highly specialized area of Environmental Consulting. Our new Contracts Specialist will review the Environmental Consultants we work with to determine if any are eligible for OMWBE certification and encourage them in obtaining that certification.

Your agency plan according to EO 22-01 should already be implemented. How has your plan aided in your efforts to increase your agency plan from last year?

We have increased our attention to and use of OMWBE and DVA certified businesses. We expect even more development in this area as in November 2024 PLIA will for the first time ever have a Contract Specialist with the capacity to focus on procurements and contracts full time. This change will help us identify areas where we can improve our plan, especially in our outreach efforts.

Did your agency's spend decrease for FY24? If so, what was the reason(s)? What perceived barriers did you face?

Our spending for FY24 was \$215,754.29. Our spending for FY25 will be similar to FY24 as we are still developing and launching a new program. Our current spending for FY25 is \$61,053.79.

What new efforts are you going to implement to try to increase your spending with small-minority and women owned businesses?

We are currently hiring a Contracts Specialist. The person hired will take all trainings available on increasing supplier diversity. They will take an inventory of our contracts and review our procurement practices to identify areas where we can increase our utilization of OMWBE certified businesses. They will evaluate our current contracts with Environmental Consultants to determine if any qualify for OMWBE certification, and if they do then the Contracts Specialist will encourage and assist the business in obtaining that certification. They will monitor the use of subcontractors and ensure compliance with subcontractor reporting. Having a full-time employee managing our contracts and procurements will help us maximize the tools provided by DES, OMWBE, and WDVA.

Additionally, any new solicitations will include Diverse Business Inclusion Plans, we have created the procurement webpage, we will be using Access Equity in addition to WEBS to notify vendors of bidding opportunities.