



Date of Board Meeting: August 18, 2026

Subject: Purchase Nuclear Simulator VPanel Slices for the Bay City Nuclear Power Technology Program as part of the Nuclear Power Technology Program Expansion.

Recommendation: Approve \$116,200 for the purchase of Nuclear Simulator VPanel Slices from GSE Engineering for the Bay City Nuclear Power Technology Program

Background and Rationale:

On March 24, 2026, the Board approved the Nuclear Power Technology Program Expansion, authorizing the College administration to execute purchases, contracts, and related agreements necessary to implement the Bay City Nuclear Power Technology Program using the special state appropriated funds. The proposed purchase of nuclear training simulators for the Bay City Nuclear Power Technology program from GSE Engineering, in the amount of \$116,200, exceeds this threshold. Accordingly, this request is presented for Board approval in accordance with the Board's prior authorization and purchasing policies.

The purchase of the Nuclear Simulator VPanel Slices will expand the hands-on simulation capabilities of the Nuclear Power Technology Program. Each VPanel Slice replicates a section of a nuclear plant control panel, giving students direct, tactile experience operating the switches, indicators, and controls found in an actual control room. Used alongside the Simtronics simulation software, the panels allow students to practice startup, shutdown, and abnormal-condition procedures in a realistic environment, reinforcing the operator skills and situational awareness expected by regional energy employers.

The College will utilize GSE Engineering for this purchase. GSE Engineering is the sole source provider of this equipment and has furnished the College with a sole source certification in accordance with applicable procurement requirements.

Budgetary Implications: \$116,200 (Special State Appropriations, Nuclear Program Expansion)

Strategic Priority Alignment:

☒ Student Success

☐ Community Impact

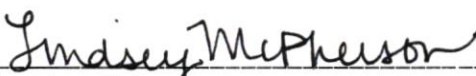
☒ Resource Optimization

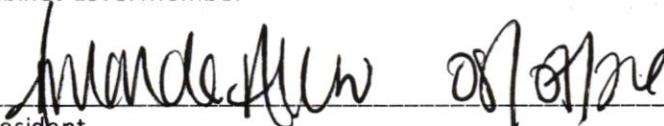
☒ Institutional Excellence

Resource Personnel:

Kimberly Ashburn, Director of Continuing Education
Lindsey McPherson, Associate VP of Academic Affairs

Approval:


Cabinet-Level Member


President

July 15, 2026

Wharton County Junior College
911 Boling Highway J117
Wharton, Texas 77488

Attn: David Amador
Instructor of Nuclear Power Technology
Subj: GSE Proposal 25-WJC-5100, rev1

Dear Danny:

GSE Performance Solutions, LLC (GSE) is pleased to provide this revised offer to provide our GPWR software (5 seats) including the first year of annual software maintenance and three (3) VPanel slices. GSE's price for the scope of work described above is \$116,200.00 plus shipping, broken down as follows:

GPWR™ software including one year of maintenance	\$ 47,200.00
VPanel Hardware (3 slices at \$23,000 each)	\$ 69,000.00

The initial software pricing above is based on a five concurrent user license. As we continue to discuss and refine this proposal, we can add additional seats and we can also add "hardware in the loop" equipment as discussed on a case by case basis. Additional years of annual software maintenance will be priced at an annual rate increase of 5% year. However, if purchased and paid for at time of order, we are pleased to offer you a firm fixed price of \$28,800.00 for four additional years of maintenance. GSE is registered as a small business in SAM under UEI Number Y479Y7CNRJ7 and our Reps and Certs may be found there.

These prices will remain valid for a period of forty-five (45) days from the date of this Offer. We appreciate the opportunity to provide this Offer to you. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Jay B Umholtz
Vice President – Government Solutions