



# OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

## Agenda Report

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**File #:** 2025-4311

**Agenda Date:** 7/2/2025

**Agenda Item No:** 6.

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**FROM:** Robert Thompson, General Manager  
Originator: Mike Dorman, Director of Engineering

**SUBJECT:**

**OCEAN OUTFALL SYSTEM REHABILITATION, PROJECT NO. J-117**

**GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend to the Board of Directors to:

Approve a contingency increase of \$153,450 (14%) to the existing Professional Services Agreement with SEL (formerly known as Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc.) for Outfall Low Flow Pump Station, Contract No. J-117B as part of Ocean Outfall System Rehabilitation, Project No. J-117, for a new total contingency amount of \$263,057 (24%).

**BACKGROUND**

The Orange County Sanitation District (OC San) is currently implementing a high-speed load-shedding system at Plant No. 2 to maintain plant operations during a Southern California Edison (SCE) power outage. This system also improves safety by reducing the arc flash energy during a fault in the power distribution equipment. The Board of Directors approved the use of SEL as the sole-source provider for the load-shedding system and electrical power system protective relays. The Board of Directors also authorized staff to negotiate a sole-source professional services agreement with SEL.

**RELEVANT STANDARDS**

- 24/7/365 treatment plant reliability
- Commitment to safety & reducing risk in all operations

**PROBLEM**

OC San has been notified that SEL TEAM software, included in the original Professional Services Agreement (PSA) to monitor and configure SEL protective relays from a central location, has been discontinued and replaced with SEL Blueframe software. Migration to the SEL Blueframe software is necessary to have a plant-wide, integrated protective relay system.

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

Approve a contingency increase to implement the SEL Blueframe software and provide additional support for project troubleshooting and commissioning.

## **TIMING CONCERNS**

A separate contract with SEL will be required to implement the SEL Blueframe software in the future if it is not completed under this project.

## **RAMIFICATIONS OF NOT TAKING ACTION**

OC San will need to physically go to each electrical building and protective relay to configure and gather monitoring data.

## **PRIOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTIONS**

March 2019 - Approved a Professional Services Agreement with Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, Inc. (SEL) to provide final design, programming, testing, commissioning, and training for a load-shedding system and electrical power system protective relays for Ocean Outfall System Rehabilitation, Project No. J-117, Outfall Low Flow Pump Station, Contract No. J-117B, for a total amount not to exceed \$1,096,074; and approved a contingency of \$109,607 (10%).

March 2018 - Authorized staff to specify Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories as the sole source provider for current and future projects equipment, materials, and services for electrical power system protective relays and load-shedding systems at Plant Nos. 1 and 2; and authorized staff to negotiate service agreements for services related to protective relays and load-shedding systems for current and future projects, and for on-going operations and maintenance at Plant Nos. 1 and 2.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

N/A

## **CEQA**

An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Outfall Low Flow Pump Station, Contract No. J-117B, was adopted by the Board of Directors on September 27, 2017. The Notice of Determination was filed with the Orange County Clerk-Recorder on October 2, 2017.

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

This request complies with the authority levels of OC San's Purchasing Ordinance. This item has been budgeted (Proposed Budget Update FY 2025-26, Page A-6, Ocean Outfall System Rehabilitation, Project No. J-117) and the budget is sufficient for the recommended action.

**ATTACHMENT**

*The following attachment(s) may be viewed on-line at the OC San website ([www.ocsan.gov](http://www.ocsan.gov)) with the complete agenda package:*

N/A

VP:lb