

## OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

### Agenda Report

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**File #:** 2025-4172

**Agenda Date:** 9/3/2025

**Agenda Item No:** 14.

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

**SUBJECT:**

**CHEMICAL SYSTEMS REHABILITATION AT PLANT NO. 2, PROJECT NO. P2-135**

**GENERAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION**

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend to the Board of Directors to:

- A. Approve a project budget increase of \$430,000 for Chemical Systems Rehabilitation at Plant No. 2, Project No. P2-135, for a new total budget of \$9,860,000;
- B. Approve a Professional Construction Services Agreement with Lee & Ro, Inc. to provide construction support services for Chemical Systems Rehabilitation at Plant No. 2, Project No. P2-135, for a total amount not to exceed \$812,061; and
- C. Approve a contingency of \$81,206 (10%).

**BACKGROUND**

Lee & Ro, Inc., was selected as part of a competitive, qualifications-based solicitation process to design the Chemical Systems Rehabilitation at Plant No. 2, Project No. P2-135. At the time of the solicitation, the Orange County Sanitation District (OC San) documented its intent to award a subsequent agreement to the design consultant for the continuation of engineering services during construction.

This project will make improvements to both the Sodium Bisulfite Station and the Anionic Polymer Station at Plant No. 2. At the Sodium Bisulfite Station, the project will replace the chemical tanks, chemical feed pumps, piping, and electrical equipment, and install new plant water and plant air supply systems. The redesigned system will operate intermittently to help prevent sodium bisulfite from crystallizing when not in use for long periods. At the Anionic Polymer Station, the project will demolish and replace obsolete electrical and instrumentation components, including controllers, motor run-time meters, valves, and actuators.

**RELEVANT STANDARDS**

- Comply with California Government Code Section 4526 to engage the best qualified firm “on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications” and “negotiate fair and reasonable fees”

- Comply with environmental permit requirements
- 24/7/365 treatment plant reliability

## **PROBLEM**

This project requires the design consultant to provide as-needed services during construction including submittal review, responding to the Contractor's requests for information, reviewing construction change orders, participating in meetings, attending site visits, and preparing record drawings.

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

Award a Professional Construction Support Services Agreement with the design consultant, Lee & Ro, Inc., to provide engineering support services during construction.

## **TIMING CONCERNS**

Engineering support services will be required at the start of construction. Construction is anticipated to start in October 2025.

## **RAMIFICATIONS OF NOT TAKING ACTION**

The engineering support services needed to facilitate and review construction activities would not be available from the Engineer of Record, which may negatively impact contract execution.

## **PRIOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTIONS**

March 2023 - Approved a Professional Design Services Agreement with Lee & Ro, Inc., to provide engineering design services for an amount not to exceed \$862,328 and approved a contingency of \$86,233 (10%).

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Lee & Ro, Inc. has successfully furnished engineering services for the design of this project and their support services during construction will provide continuity through the completion of the project.

Staff negotiated with Lee & Ro, Inc. for these support services in accordance with OC San's adopted policies and procedures. A review of the proposed price was conducted using estimated quantities of requests for information, submittals, meetings, site visits, change order review, and design revisions, as well as the level of effort for preparing record drawings. Based on this review, staff determined the negotiated fee to be fair and reasonable for these services.

## **CEQA**

The project is exempt from CEQA, and a Notice of Exemption was filed and stamped in March 2023 with the OC Clerk-Recorder.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

This request complies with the authority levels of OC San's Purchasing Ordinance. This item has been budgeted (Budget Update FY 2025-26, Page A-6, Chemical Systems Rehabilitation at Plant No. 2, Project No. P2-135). This item will increase the project budget and will be funded from the CIP budget.

**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:*

- Professional Construction Services Agreement
- Presentation

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