

STAFF REPORT

DATE: July 19, 2011

TO: Utilities Commission

FROM: Cari Dale, Water Utilities Director

SUBJECT: **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GEOSCIENCE SUPPORT SERVICES INCORPORATED FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO FEASIBILITY OF SEAWATER DESALINATION IN THE MISSION NARROWS**

SYNOPSIS

Staff recommends that the Utilities Commission recommend that the City Council approve a professional services agreement in an amount not to exceed \$1,357,450 with Geoscience Support Services Incorporated of Claremont, for professional services related to feasibility for seawater desalination in the Mission Narrows; and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

BACKGROUND

The City has performed a preliminary pilot study for the feasibility of treating seawater utilizing the reverse osmosis process. The Feasibility Report recommended next steps include boring test wells within the Mission Narrows on the San Luis Rey River, conducting long-term aquifer testing and developing a three-dimensional ground water flow model. The objective of these studies will be to determine the availability of supplying at a minimum 10 MGD to 20 MGD, determine the salinity levels of these waters and the long-term effects of pumping up to 20 MGD.

ANALYSIS

On April 18, 2011, a Request for Proposal was sent to four consulting firms for hydro-geologists to establish additional exploratory wells within the Mission Narrows and to determine the effective pumping rates of the San Luis Rey River. (Exhibit A)

On May 17, 2011, the Water Utilities Department received proposals from two of the four consulting firms; staff performed a review of the proposals for accuracy and completeness. Staff has determined that the proposal includes the required items as outlined in the RFP. (Exhibit B)

FISCAL IMPACT

The Fiscal Year 11-12 approved budget for the Ocean Desalination Geotechnical Project (908824700715) is \$1,900,000 each; the total for the evaluation of the seawater feasibility is \$1,357,450 (Exhibit C). Therefore, adequate funds will be available for the project.

CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS

The referenced documents are being reviewed by the City Attorney's office.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

The City's standard insurance requirements will be met.

COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT

The Water/Sewer Committee was unable to review staff's recommendation at its regularly scheduled meeting due to the lack of a quorum.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Utilities Commission recommend that the City Council approve a professional services agreement in an amount not to exceed \$1,357,450 with Geoscience Support Services Incorporated of Claremont, for professional services related to feasibility for seawater desalination in the Mission Narrows; and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.

PREPARED BY:

Greg Blakely
Administration Manager

Exhibit A – Request for Proposal Mailing List
Exhibit B – Consultant's Rating Form
Exhibit C – Professional Services Agreement