



**STATUS REPORT**  
**EAST RANGE WATER PROJECT**  
**TASK 2 & TASK 3**  
**EAST RANGE WATER BOARD**  
**CITY OF AURORA & TOWN OF WHITE**  
**SEH Project No. 159723**

DATE: Monday, September 18 2023

**ATTACHMENTS**

- 1) SEH Bid Summary Letter

**REQUESTED ACTIONS**

- 1) Make determination of project re-bid to award or reject.
- 2) If the ERWB chooses to re-bid the project, authorize SEH to proceed with:
  - a. Separating the project documents into three (3) separate bid packages that will create three (3) separate construction contracts.
  - b. Advertise the project re-bid.
  - c. Setting the bid time and bid date for 2:00 PM, Tuesday, October 24, 2023.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 1) Project Bid:
  - a) Opened bids at 2:00 PM, Thursday, September 7, 2023
  - b) Received only one (1) bid.
  - c) The project isn't funded to the level of the bid price.
  - d) SEH is recommending to re-bid the project in three (3) separate bid packages.
  - e) Feedback from contractors at the pre-bid and post-bid indicate that:
    1. Contractor's elected to not bid a project that had so much of the scope out of their line of work.
    2. There is a significant amount of work to bid and so, contractors have concerns being selective with how close they come to their bonding limit.
  - f) SEH proposes to execute:
    1. Separating the project documents into three (3) separate bid packages that will create three (3) separate construction contracts.
    2. Advertise the project re-bid.
    3. Setting the bid time and bid date for 2:00 PM, Tuesday, October 24, 2023.
    4. SEH's fee for this work is a Lump Sum \$13,500.00.

Items involved with advancing the project:

- 1) Project Funding:
  - a) Finalize funding sources & amounts
  - b) Update funding analysis
  - c) Complete applications and closures for loans and grants
  - d) Close DWRF loan.
- 2) Appropriations Permit
  - a) No further materials have come from the DNR
  - b) DNR has some draft documents for the appropriations permit.
  - c) DNR has issued a modified Water Supply Contingency Plan document to be reviewed & executed between the ERWB, the IRRRB, and the DNR.
  - d) Expect DNR to send a modified Water Supply Contingency Plan document for review and execution between the ERWB, the City of Biwabik, and the DNR.
- 3) Environmental Review:
  - a) Federal Environmental Review
    1. This review has been made necessary due to the direct Federal earmark funds the project received.

Engineers | Architects | Planners | Scientists

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2. EPA still has not completed their Environmental Review.
3. SEH is uncertain of schedule for final approval but continues to contact EPA for updates.
- 4) Project Certification
  - a) MDH has certified the project.
  - b) EPA certifies project at Federal level after the EPA Environmental Review is complete. The public comment period will be 30-45 days after EPA completes review, depending on EPA recommendations/findings.
- 5) Biwabik-East Range Water Supply Mutual Aid Agreement
  - a) COA to review draft field-testing procedure with operations staff.
  - b) SEH to provide cost for testing and results reporting.
- 6) Project Permits/Approvals:
  - a) DLI - Raw Water Intake and Pump Station – Contingent approval approved.
  - b) City BO - Raw Water Intake and Pump Station
  - c) County Work in Roadway - Contractor responsible to obtain permit.
  - d) DNR: Finalize documents.
  - e) Building Permit:
    1. RWPS - Contractor responsible to obtain permit.
    2. WTP - Contractor responsible to obtain permit.
- 7) Project Schedule
  - a) Virtually (or in-person) open bids at 2:00 PM Tuesday, October 24, 2023.
  - b) Review bids
  - c) ERWB approval of the bids
  - d) Contracting:
    1. Contractor: November 2023
    2. Soils Testing Firm: November 2023
  - e) Contractor Subcontracts: December 2023-March 2024
  - f) Shop Drawings: December 2023-October 2024
  - g) Construction Starts: April-May 2024
  - h) Substantial Completion: May 2025
  - i) Final Completion: July 2025.
- 8) SEH Construction Phase Agreement – to be submitted soon
  - a) Contract Administration for the three (3) separate projects
    1. Construction Contract
    2. Minnesota DWRF reporting
    3. EPA project reporting
  - b) Miscellaneous Services/Efforts
    1. Tree staking,
    2. Biwabik-East Range water supply/interconnect modeling,
    3. Coordination with EPA Environmental Review,
    4. Coordination with Barr on Lake Mine modeling,
    5. Plan and Spec reassembly
  - c) Construction Observation & Field Coordination
    1. Project elements
      - (1) WTP
      - (2) Water Main, and
      - (3) Raw Water Intake
    2. Work Force
      - (1) Fulltime resident project representative through the project
      - (2) Parttime utility observer
      - (3) Special inspections by structural engineer
      - (4) Periodic observations by disciplines (civil, geotech, architectural, mechanical, electrical, process)
      - (5) Operations staff for start-up

END.