

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
DES MOINES, IOWA

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION 97-471
SEPTEMBER 22, 1997 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR PHASE ONE OF THE PROCESS SAFETY MANAGEMENT STUDY AT THE WRA REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT	◆ RESOLUTION ORDINANCE RECEIVE/FILE	HAROLD SMITH CITY ENGINEER

SYNOPSIS —

An agreement has been negotiated with the professional engineering firm of CH2M Hill, Inc., 411 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1600, Milwaukee, WI, 53202-4421, Ralph R. Peterson, President, to provide Engineering Services for Phase One of a study to determine the status of the WRA Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant's compliance with Federal requirements of the Clean Air Act. The proposed agreement is a cost plus fixed fee arrangement and provides for Professional Engineering Services for the study. The proposed fee for such work is \$8,850 plus a fixed fee of \$1,050 which results in a total maximum fee of \$9,900 for this agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT —

Funds to support this study will be provided by fund account number 055160, utilizing funds on hand as part of the WRA Wastewater Treatment Plant Operating Budget.

RECOMMENDATION —

Approval of the proposed Engineering Services Agreement with CH2M Hill, Inc.

BACKGROUND —

In 1986, Congress passed the framework for emergency planning efforts through Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA), also known as the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (42 U.S.C. 11001 et seq.). SARA encourages and supports states and local communities in efforts to address the problems of chemical releases. Under Section 302 of SARA, 42 U.S.C. 11002, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was required to publish a list of extremely hazardous substances with threshold planning quantities which would trigger planning in states and local communities (52 FR 13378).

The WRA Wastewater Reclamation Facility has two of the listed chemicals, chlorine and sulfur dioxide, as used in the disinfection process; and methane, which is a component of the digester gas system, that exceed the threshold quantity on the *List of Highly Hazardous Chemicals, Toxic and Reactives*. Digester gas is typically 65 percent methane with 26 grains per 100 cubic feet hydrogen sulfide. The high-pressure digester gas storage sphere at the Wastewater Treatment Facility holds 144,000 cubic feet of gas at 45 psig. Calculations show that this flammable gas exceeds the 10,000-pound threshold quantity listed in the regulations.

This agreement provides for Phase One of the study which will provide an appraisal of the existing Wastewater Treatment Plant procedures that are already in place concerning these regulations as well as the Wastewater Treatment Plant processes that may be subject to them. The study will identify the status of the WRA Wastewater Treatment Plant with regard to its compliance with the federal regulations. After this is completed, an Agreement Amendment for Phase Two will be negotiated to recommend and implement appropriate steps to be taken by the WRA Wastewater Treatment Plant staff for compliance with the mentioned federal regulations that apply to this facility. This action is intended to begin activities that will prevent or minimize the consequences of potential catastrophic releases of toxic chemicals at the facility.