

COMMISSION FILE NO: 25-118-9 **DATE INTRODUCED:** September 8, 2025

INTRODUCED BY: Executive Director (Signature on File in the Office of the Commission)

REFERRED BY COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON TO: Operations Committee

RELATING TO: Award of Contract S06049C02, Secondary Control Building Basin Drain Pump Replacements at South Shore Water Reclamation Facility

SUMMARY:

The Commission is requested to award and to direct the Executive Director to execute on behalf of the District Contract S06049C02, Secondary Control Building Basin Drain Pump Replacements at South Shore Water Reclamation Facility (SSWRF), to J.F. Ahern Co. (Ahern) in the amount of \$526,035. Ahern was the lowest responsible, responsive bidder between two bids received.

The activated sludge process is one of the fundamental steps in the water reclamation process. The process involves growing microorganisms in large aeration basins, where the microorganisms consume the organic material in wastewater. The source of the microorganisms is return activated sludge (RAS) from secondary clarifiers, which combine with primary clarifier effluent at the beginning of the aeration basins to form mixed liquor. Mixed liquor is continuously supplied with oxygen for several hours, which allows and promotes microorganisms to consume the organic material in the wastewater. The mixed liquor travels through the aeration basins to the secondary clarifiers. In the secondary clarifiers, the mixed liquor settles by gravity, creating activated sludge. The activated sludge is collected at the bottom of each secondary clarifier.

SSWRF has 24 secondary clarifiers, large, octagonal basins measuring 112 feet in diameter. The clarifiers are arranged into six batteries, each comprised of four clarifiers. Consistent with the Operation and Maintenance Contract, Veolia Water Milwaukee, LLC, dewater and cleans each secondary clarifier every two years to ensure that the drive mechanism is functioning properly, inspects sludge withdrawal valves, and performs an overall condition assessment of the clarifiers.

ATTACHMENTS: **BACKGROUND** ☐ **KEY ISSUES** ☐ **RESOLUTION** ☒

FISCAL NOTE ☒ **S/W/MBE** ☒ **OTHER** ☐ _____

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COMMITTEE ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

COMMISSION ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

SUMMARY (Cont'd)

Award of Contract S06049C02, Secondary Control Building Basin Drain Pump Replacements at South Shore Water Reclamation Facility

Batteries 5 and 6 secondary clarifiers are drained by basin drain pumps located in the basement of their respective Secondary Control Buildings (5 and 6). Secondary Control Buildings 5 and 6 basin drain pumps were installed in 1984, have exceeded their expected service lives, and are unreliable. Rotating parts show signs of severe wear, metallic parts are corroded beyond repair, the reinforced concrete equipment pads are crumbling, and the suction valves leak activated sludge onto the floor. This results in pumps frequently requiring repairs and the inability to drain the Battery 5 and 6 secondary clarifiers for maintenance. The purpose of this contract is to ensure that there is a reliable means to drain Battery 5 and 6 secondary clarifiers for maintenance. Proper maintenance of the secondary clarifiers ensures that the plant maintains full capacity.

The District prepared bid documents and publicly bid this contract. Under this contract, Ahern will:

- Remove the existing pump motors, pumps, baseplates, reinforced concrete equipment pads, suction valves, and discharge check valves.
- Form and place new reinforced concrete equipment pads.
- Furnish and install new suction knife gate valves and discharge check valves.
- Furnish and install new baseplates, pumps, and pump motors.
- Connect, align, and balance the new pumps and motors.
- Perform startup and testing.

The contract duration is 365 days.

RESOLUTION

Award of Contract S06049C02, Secondary Control Building Basin Drain Pump
Replacements at South Shore Water Reclamation Facility

RESOLVED, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that Contract S06049C02, Secondary Control Building Basin Drain Pump Replacements at South Shore Water Reclamation Facility, is awarded to J.F. Ahern Co. in the amount of \$526,035, and that the Executive Director is directed to execute a contract on behalf of the District.