

COMMISSION FILE NO: 26-007-1 **DATE INTRODUCED:** January 12, 2026

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

REFERRED BY COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON TO: Operations Committee

RELATING TO: Material Capital Repair or Replacement 1688, Classification Bucket Elevators #1 and #2 Replacements, Project J06087

SUMMARY:

The Commission is requested to authorize the Executive Director to execute on behalf of the District a purchase order with Veolia Water Milwaukee, LLC, (VWM) for Material Capital Repair or Replacement (MCRR) 1688, Classification Bucket Elevators #1 and #2 Replacements, Project J06087, in an amount not to exceed \$982,697.

Biosolids are removed from both the Jones Island and South Shore Water Reclamation Facilities and processed into Milorganite® in the Dewatering & Drying (D&D) Facility. The District's D&D Facility utilizes 24 belt filter presses to dewater the sludge and then 12 rotary drum dryers to heat dry the sludge. After drying, some of the biosolids are used as recycle feed that is mixed with wet feed to the dryers, while the rest is conveyed to classification equipment for sizing, screening, and cooling before placement in the Milorganite® storage silos. An extensive series of screw conveyors, belt conveyors, bucket elevators, and ladder chutes convey the heat dried biosolids through both process paths.

There are two trains of classification equipment, north and south, one providing redundancy to the other as well as providing extra processing capacity during high production periods. The classification bucket elevators accept the dried product from the drying process equipment and transport it upward to the start of the classification process. Each classification bucket elevator is constructed vertically from the basement of D&D to the seventh floor and utilizes a continuous belt containing buckets to transfer the product vertically upward about 120 feet.

ATTACHMENTS: **BACKGROUND** ☐ **KEY ISSUES** ☐ **RESOLUTION** ☒
FISCAL NOTE ☒ **S/W/MBE** ☒ **OTHER** ☐ _____

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COMMITTEE ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

COMMISSION ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

SUMMARY (Cont'd)

Material Capital Repair or Replacement 1688, Classification Bucket Elevators #1 and #2 Replacements, Project J06087

The existing two Classification Bucket Elevators have steel housings that have worn thin from abrasion and corrosion. In many locations throughout the height of each elevator, holes are present through the exterior housing and allow steam, dust, and Milorganite® to escape, resulting in continuous housekeeping efforts and a safety concern. Over the last two years, VWM has installed varying sized steel patches to cover the holes; however, the elevator steel walls are thinning such that patching is no longer an option, and the wall integrity is compromised. For an interim repair, VWM contracted for replacement of panel sections of the housing where the existing steel is too thin to accept a welded patch.

The thinning metal also presents a safety concern as it was designed to provide a solid continuous barrier between the moving belt and buckets inside the housing. Further, the housing was designed to contain a specific burst pressure in case of a deflagration event. The sheet metal housing is also integral to the structural integrity of the entire bucket elevator between structural supports on each floor.

VWM prepared a bid package and publicly bid a contract to replace both bucket elevators. Wallner Industrial, LLC, (Wallner) submitted the lowest responsible and responsive bid of two bids received. The purchase order will be issued to VWM, which is responsible for managing and overseeing the contract with Wallner.

Under this purchase order, Wallner will replace both Classification Bucket Elevator systems. To reduce abrasion and corrosion, the replacement housing will use stainless steel and incorporate a hard face material on higher wear areas. The purchase order will also include \$18,227 to compensate VWM for previously performed panel replacement work.

The duration of this contract is 700 calendar days; however, each outage for equipment replacement is limited to 30 calendar days.

RESOLUTION

Material Capital Repair or Replacement 1688, Classification Bucket Elevators #1 and #2
Replacements, Project J06087

RESOLVED, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute a purchase order with Veolia Water Milwaukee, LLC, for Material Capital Repair or Replacement 1688, Classification Bucket Elevators #1 and #2 Replacements, Project J06087, in an amount not to exceed \$982,697.