

**Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**February 13, 2023**

**Authorizing the General Manager to Negotiate an  
Analytical Laboratory Services Contract with Legend Technical Services, Inc.**

**Synopsis**

The Board of Directors is requested to authorize the General Manager to negotiate and enter into an Analytical Laboratory Services Contract with Legend Technical Services, Inc. (Legend), for Fiscal Years 2024-2025 in the amount of \$60,000. This money is not in addition to the existing Fiscal Year 2024 water quality budget, but would be portioned from the same \$245,924.00.

**Background**

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) enforces federal drinking water requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Water quality testing services necessary to maintain compliance with ADEQ Drinking Water Rules and to ensure the delivery of safe reliable water to customers must be performed by a qualified laboratory.

In previous years, the District solicited requests for proposals from qualified laboratories for various water quality constituents. Consistently, Legend, Eurofins-Eaton Analytical, Inc. (Eurofins) and Turner Laboratories, Inc., (Turner) are the top-ranked firms for the analysis of certain water quality constituents according to their quality assurance / quality control, method detection levels, costs for analyses, turnaround time, references, certification, and other pertinent factors such as laboratory methods used, and laboratory reports.

Eurofins is currently under contract to perform these services for inorganic chemicals (IOC) and metals, synthetic organic chemicals (SOC), and Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule Three and Four (UCMR3) and (UCMR4) constituents.

Turner Laboratories is currently under contract to perform these services for volatile organic chemicals (VOC), radiochemicals, and disinfection byproducts (DBP), which include total trihalomethanes (TTHM), haloacetic acid (HAA5).

As UCMR-5 becomes a monitoring regime in late 2023, the total sampling load is expected to increase dramatically. The District would like to use Legend on an as-needed basis, to provide analyses to support existing requirements and elective monitoring, as well as future requirements for UCMR-5. The proposed primary parameters to include in a contract with Legend are 1,4-dioxane, SOCs, VOCs, and UCMR-5 samples. These parameters would not be exclusive to Legend, other laboratory contracts with the District also include these samples.

**Issues**

Eurofins has an office in Scottsdale, Arizona and their Laboratory is located in Monrovia, California. Legend and Turner are located in Tucson, Arizona. VOC samples often require 24-48

hour RUSH analyses and Eurofins is unable to meet the necessary turnaround times as they need to be shipped to the lab in Monrovia, California. Legend and Turner’s laboratories are in Tucson, AZ and both are able to meet RUSH turnaround times.

Legend has quoted the following per sample cost:

1,4 Dioxane	\$220.00
SOCs	\$1,620.00
VOCs	\$526.00

Legend also submitted a UCMR-5 specific quote of \$900 per sample without detect and \$1750 per samples with detect, which requires duplicate testing. Below are the 2023 per sample quoted costs by the three laboratories.

Laboratory	UCMR-5	1,4 Dioxane	VOCs	SOCs
Legend	\$900.00	\$220.00	\$526.00	\$1,620.00
Turner	\$910.50	Subcontract	\$389.00	\$1,380.00
Eurofins	\$525.00	\$125.00	\$575.00	\$1,015.00

The contract term would end June 30, 2025, consistent with the existing contracts with Eurofins and Turner.

**Recommendation**

Based on staff review of the quotes, and consideration of sample processing times, shipping and handling, and holding times for certain constituents, it is recommended that the Board authorize the General Manager to negotiate and enter into a contract with Legend as an on-call laboratory to assist in analyses for Fiscal Years 2024-2025 up to \$60,000. Actual expenditures will be as authorized per the adopted annual budgets.

**Suggested Motion**

I move to authorize the General Manager to negotiate and enter into an Analytical Laboratory Services Contract with Legend Technical Services, Inc. for Fiscal Years 2024-2025 in the amount of \$60,000 to complete analytical services not exclusively related to 1,4-dioxane, SOCs, VOCs, and UCMR-5 constituents and to authorize the General Manager to solicit services and negotiate pricing for other routine chemical analyses from Legend Technical Services, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

I concur with the above-noted recommendation.  
 Respectfully submitted,

Sheila M. Bowen, P.E.  
 District Engineer

Joseph Olsen, P.E.  
 General Manager