

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

June 11, 2012

**Approval of Amendment No. 1 for the Analytical Laboratory
Services Contract for Radiochemical Analyses**

Synopsis

The Board of Directors is requested to approve Amendment No. 1 for the Analytical Laboratory Services Contract for Radiochemical Analyses with Turner Laboratories, Inc. This is to extend the contract through Fiscal Year 2012/2013. This will ensure that the District complies with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality's Drinking Water Rules.

Background

According to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Drinking Water Rules, the District must currently monitor for Radiochemicals once every four years. Regulated radiochemicals include Gross Alpha, Radium-226 and Radium-228, and Uranium. The District monitors for the Regulated radiochemicals plus radon at the 21 active Metro-Main EPDS'. The ADEQ MAP Program monitors radiochemicals at the active Metro-Hub and Metro-Southwest EPDSs. However, should a new well be installed, the District is responsible for the first quarters of radiochemical monitoring (with no detections) at all of its Systems. An Entry Point into the Distribution System (EPDS) is the point at which water is discharged from a well, storage tank, reservoir or pressure tank into the distribution system after treatment, prior to any service connection. The District occasionally collects samples for Radon in anticipation of the new Radon rule.

In December 2000, EPA finalized a new Rule for Radionuclides that requires monitoring for Gross Alpha (MCL of 15 pCi/L), Combined Radium 226/228 (5 pCi/l), and Uranium (MCL of 30 ppb). The rule requires that four quarters of monitoring for each of the noted contaminants must occur in 2006. However, grandfathered data was accepted by ADEQ for the District's Metro-Main service area. Thus, the new rule allows for monitoring once every four years at the District's EPDSs.

Issues

Based on the state and federal drinking water regulatory requirements to analyze for Radiochemicals Analyses, the District requires the renewal of the Analytical Laboratory Services Contract for Radiochemicals for the FY 2012/2013. In June 2011, the Board of Directors approved the Radiochemical Analytical Contract with Turner Laboratories, Inc., with the ability to extend the contract two additional years. This would be the second of three years of the Contract, pending Board approval. Staff prefers to retain the services of Turner Laboratories, Inc. for an additional year, rather than soliciting for RFPs to select a new laboratory to complete these analytical services

due to their past performance.

Should the District need an emergency/back-up laboratory for Radiochemicals when Turner Laboratories, Inc. is unavailable or cannot meet a certain turn-around time, Xenco Laboratories in Phoenix has quoted the District a price of \$400.00 for Radiochemical analyses plus shipping.

It is anticipated for FY 2012/2013, the total cost for the Radiochemical analytical services contract will not exceed \$5,000. The Contract amount will not need to be increased for FY 2012/2013 since no expenditures occurred in FY 2011/2012. The Contract amount will remain at the original amount of \$8,000 for FY 2012/2013.

Funds for these analytical services were included in the proposed FY 2012/2013 Budget for Water Quality Testing Services. The amendment includes all compliance, new well and contingency sampling that may occur.

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board of Directors approve Amendment No. 1 to the analytical services contract for Radiochemicals with Turner Laboratories, Inc. to extend the contract's expiration data to June 30, 2013 for FY 2012/2013, and maintain the current contract amount of \$8,000. The Contract may be extended for an additional year pending Board approval.

Suggested Motion

I move that Amendment No. 1 for the Analytical Laboratory Services Contract for Radiochemical Analyses with Turner Laboratories, Inc. to extend the contract's expiration data to June 30, 2013 and maintain the contract amount of \$8,000 for FY 2012/2013 be approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Shepard
Utility Superintendent

I concur with the above-noted recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark R. Stratton, P.E.
General Manager