



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

DATE ISSUED: February 17, 2010 REPORT NO. 10-018

ATTENTION: Natural Resources and Culture Committee
Agenda of February 24, 2010

SUBJECT: As Needed Consultant Agreement with Geosyntec
Consultants For Landfill VOC Migration Mitigation

SUMMARY:

The Environmental Services Department requests approval of the As-Needed Consultant Agreement with Geosyntec Consultants; authorization to transfer funds; and authorization for the Chief Financial Officer to appropriate and expend funds from the Refuse Disposal Operating Fund 700039 for professional services.

BACKGROUND:

Through a competitive process in accordance with A.R. 25.60, Geosyntec Consultants was selected for the landfill volatile organic compound (VOC) migration mitigation project agreement. The work performed by Geosyntec Consultants for this Agreement will include developing strategies and plans to reduce migration of VOC's from landfill sites; enhance landfill gas control systems; implement alternative VOC migration mitigation control measures; and confer and meet with regulatory agencies including the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), the Local Enforcement Agency of the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, and the Air Pollution Control District.

DISCUSSION:

Recently, the State changed California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 27 to require below-grade landfill gas detection probes for active landfills. State regulators can order fines for landfill sites that are out of compliance, and/or impose prescriptive corrective actions with restrictive timelines, all resulting in increased costs. In compliance with this rule change, Environmental Services Department installed probes around the perimeter of the West Miramar Landfill in August of 2009. The probes detected migrating landfill gas which contains VOC's that can contaminate groundwater. In addition, at the inactive Arizona Street landfill, there has been long-term landfill gas migration; efforts to date have not been successful in correcting it. Two other inactive landfill sites, South Chollas landfill and South Miramar landfill, have been showing VOC impacts to groundwater. Existing landfill groundwater programs have been

successful at detecting VOC impacts and establishing VOC concentration trends, but have not been successful at reversing the trend toward increased concentration.

The technical services to be performed under this contract are necessary to maintain compliance with California Code of Regulations Titles 23 & 27, and waste discharge requirements by the RWQCB via Orders 93-78, 94-28, 96-15 and 97-11 including changes to these regulations. Geosyntec Consultants has been performing landfill VOC migration mitigation work in San Diego County for several years. Approval of this Agreement with Geosyntec Consultants will allow us to maintain the landfill sites in compliance with State regulations and thus decrease risks to public health and safety, as well as to the environment.

FISCAL CONSIDERATIONS: This request is for authorization to transfer funds in the amount of \$600,000 from CIP S-01075(Legacy CIP-370569) West Miramar Landfill Liner Module E, Refuse Disposal Fund 700040, and \$250,000 from CIP A-KC.00001 Annual Allocation–Ground Water Monitoring Network, Refuse Disposal Fund 700040, for a total of \$850,000 to the Refuse Disposal Operating Fund 700039. The maximum contract amount for this proposed agreement is \$850,000.

Other than the guaranteed minimum award of \$1,000, funds are not be encumbered or expended until such time as specific projects are identified and the City Comptroller certifies that the necessary funds are, or will be, on deposit with the City.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY CONTRACTING INFORMATION (IF APPLICABLE): This Agreement is subject to the City’s Equal Opportunity Contracting (San Diego Ordinance No. 18173, Sections 22.2701 through 22.2708) and Non-Discrimination Ordinance (San Diego Municipal Code Sections 22.3501 through 22.3517.)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL and/or COMMITTEE ACTION: None

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH EFFORTS: None. There are no known groups expressing support or opposition to this project.

KEY STAKEHOLDERS AND PROJECTED IMPACTS: Citizens of San Diego,
Geosyntec Consultants



Chris Gonaver
Environmental Services Director



David Jarrell
Deputy Chief of Public Works