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File No.:



**To:** Chair and Members  
Lambton Area Water Supply System Joint Board of Management

**From:** Clinton Harper  
General Manager

**Subject:** WTP Main Switchgear & Generator Replacement Project

## Recommendation

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It is recommended that the LAWSS Joint Board;

1. receive this staff report as information, and
2. allow staff to proceed with tendering for General Contractor for the implementation of future LAWSS RFQ 20-131 Replacement of 5kV Switchgear and Emergency Generators at LAWSS.

## Background:

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RFP 18-131 "Engineering Design for Replacement of Emergency Generators at LAWSS" was awarded to EXP Services Inc. on July 17, 2018. EXP Services Inc's proposal was the best among seven proposals received for this project. Proposals were evaluated by a team consisting of the City of Sarnia Procurement Department, OCWA Operational Staff, and the LAWSS General Manager.

At the recommendation of staff, in November 2018, the Board authorized EXP to explore and include in the final build a provision for the new generator system to be used for non-standby applications.

At the end of 2018, the Board requested that staff explore efficiencies related to replacement of the WTP 5kV Switchgear as part of the Generator Project. In a report dated January 31, 2019, staff described the efficiencies related to combining the projects. Based on the information and the recommendations provided, the Board increased the overall project construction budget from \$4million to \$5.5million and approved EXP Services Inc. to provide the Engineering Services needed to combine the 5kV Switchgear with the Generator Project.

In June 2019, based on a recommendation from staff, Toromont was selected to provide the generator package for the Generator Replacement portion of the project. A PO was issued and work began to assemble the equipment. As of October 2019, the three 1.5MW units were delivered to the Toromont testing facility in Burlington and were

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tested as per contract requirements. OCWA and EXP Services Inc. provided staff to attend the testing.

In January 2020, based on a recommendation from staff, ABB was selected to provide the main 5kV Switchgear portion of the project. A PO was issued and work began to assemble the equipment. This equipment is currently still being assembled.

Due to the criticality of the systems that will be affected during the Generator and 5kV Switchgear Replacement Project, an effort was made to prequalify the contractors authorized to bid on the General Contracting (GC) component. The GC approved to bid on the project were pre-qualified based on the following criteria:

- Demonstration of a specified level of overall Company qualifications and experience.
- Availability of specialized staff required for the project.
- Past Company safety performance.
- Commitment to communication.

The GC prequalification tendering process yielded three contractors with the sufficient experience and the necessary qualifications to successfully complete the LAWSS Generator and Switchgear Replacement Project.

## Comments:

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Work on the tender package for the GC component is nearing completion. The remaining outstanding items related to tying into the existing fuel system are in the process of being resolved, and once resolved, LAWSS can move forward with tendering this project. It is expected that a special meeting will be needed in mid-August to award the project.

A draft 95% RFQ will be provided to LAWSS staff within the next 2-weeks. This draft will undergo a staff review. Once this review is complete, LAWSS will proceed into the tendering stage of the project.

## Consultation:

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This report was completed in consultation with EXP Services Inc., OCWA Operational Staff, and the City of Sarnia's Purchasing Department.

## Financial Implications:

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LAWSS Board established a \$5,866,000 budget for the Main Switchgear and Generator Replacement project at the water treatment plant. Of this initial budget, \$2,044,563

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remains available to cover the remaining contract costs. At this time the remaining amount is expected to be sufficient to complete and fully commission the project.

This report was prepared by Clinton Harper, LAWSS General Manger

Attachment(s):