

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT
OF GREATER CHICAGO**

DEPARTMENT: General Administration, **DATE:** March 17, 2026
Diversity Section

TO: Pinakin V. Desai, Acting Director of Maintenance and Operations

FROM: Richard L. Martinez, Jr., Diversity Administrator *Richard L. Martinez, Jr.*

SUBJECT: Review of Information for Contract 26-915-11, Furnish, Deliver, and Change Out Media in the Hydrogen Sulfide Removal Vessels at the Stickney Water Reclamation Plant

Our review of this contract and specifications indicates that Affirmative Action goals are not recommended.

The District is seeking a Contractor to provide all necessary insurance, material, labor, supervision, equipment, tools, transportation, utilities, safety equipment, appurtenances, and expertise to remove and replace the media inside the Hydrogen Sulfide reaction vessels at the Stickney Water Reclamation Plant, including hauling and lawfully disposing of the used media classified as “pollution control waste” to a sanitary landfill. During the system startup, the Contractor is to provide a temporary flare system manufactured by ZEECO, model number Zephyr 9-48, to burn the digester gas which will include the renting, transporting, installing, maintaining, and operating of the temporary flare system during the media conditioning while also having a licensed Operating Engineer on site. Additionally, the contract requires the Contractor to arrange for the manufacturer/supplier of the Hydrogen Sulfide Removal Media to provide third-party guidance with its representative on site during the entire change-out and reload, being certain that all Hydrogen Sulfide and combustible gas levels have been reduced to safe limits before opening the manway making sure all necessary safety precautions have been taken to avoid the possibility of digester gas entering the vessel while it is being unloaded and reloaded. The estimated total cost for these services is \$1,370,000.00.

Our analysis has determined that there are insufficient numbers of certified MBEs, WBEs, and VBEs available to perform such specialized scope of work. Therefore, Appendix D and Appendix V requirements should not be included in this contract.

If you should have any questions, please contact Diversity Officer, Susan M. Schaefer, schaefer@mwr.org.

RLM/SMS

cc: D. LoCascio, S. Morakalis, J. Skawski, M. Cavarretta, B. Levy, M. Matias, D. Golden, H. Wunderlich, L. Cornier, P. Kunath, N. Lopez, M. Valdez, S. Schaefer