



## STAFF REPORT UTILITIES COMMISSION

Agenda Date: 12/4/2024  
Agenda Section: Information Only

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**Department Origination:** Public Works

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**Agenda Item:** 2024 Well Replacement Exploration Monthly Update

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**Approval Required:** No Action Required

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### **BACKGROUND**

The Existing Wellfield Evaluation Report provided to City Staff on May 1, 2024, recommended the replacement of two wells in the existing wellfield but with sufficient separation to reduce the potential of interference and minimize precipitates from forming in the aquifer. On June 18, 2024, SEH was hired to move forward with exploration of the existing wellfield aquifer for the potential installation of replacement wells on the eastern side of the water treatment plant parcel. With the initiation of the drilling program on September 30, 2024, conditions for water supply installation were not favorable at one drilling location; discussions with City Staff resulted in modification of the original scope to explore two additional drilling locations and installation of a third monitoring well. For reference related to the modifications to the drilling locations, an amendment to SEH's original agreement for additional services will be presented to the Utilities Commission at a future meeting, pending direction of other work associated with the Traut contract that is being considered.

**Task 1 (Completed):** Following a bidding process, an Agreement with the low bidder, Traut Companies, was approved by City Council on August 7, 2024, for services that included the use of sonic drilling techniques to complete two soil borings and installation of two observations wells.

SEH worked with City Staff to initiate modifications to the drilling program. SEH also worked with Traut Companies to prepare a change order for the additional services of two soil borings and one observation well. Traut Companies Change Order No. 1 was presented to the Utilities Commission approved on October 2, 2024, and at City Council on October 15, 2024.

**Task 2 (Drilling & Well Installation Completed/Soil Testing, Water Quality Analysis, & Water Level Data Collection Pending):** Drilling services oversight and borehole logging was completed by an SEH geologist to assist with aquifer assessment and the well design process. The exploratory drilling program consisting of two soil borings and installation of two observation wells was completed between September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and October 2, 2024. With the change in the drilling program, SEH provided additional drilling oversight, borehole logging, and well installation services with drilling services completed through October 7

Following the completion of the soil boring and installation of monitoring wells, an SEH geologist collected water quality samples from two of the installed observation wells. As discussed with City Staff, PFAS analysis as well as a several other compounds were added to water quality analysis, with laboratory costs included as subconsultant fees. Water samples were collected on October 21 and 22, 2024 with the laboratory report anticipated in mid-November. No samples were collected from well MW-2. Additional sampling and analytical fees will be presented as an amendment at a future meeting, pending City direction of additional drilling that is proposed to be presented in a stand-alone business item at the November 7, 2024 Utility Commission meeting.

Additionally, following the collection of water quality samples, SEH installed temporary transducers with telemetry units in the three new monitoring wells (MW-1, MW-2, and MW-3) to allow for remote monitoring of water elevations. The temporary transducers will be removed from the wells after sufficient data is collected. Additional water level costs are presented as an amendment to the original agreement on November 7, 2024.

Additional field work related to future exploration was approved as work identified under Change Order 2 for the project. The Change Order was approved at the previous Utility Commission and also at the November 19<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting. The work completed under this change order is expected in later November, and will be utilized as supplemental information for the final report for the well exploration. Due to this additional drilling, the report timeline has been pushed back from what was identified in previous updates.

**Task 3 (Pending):** A preliminary report is anticipated to be completed during December 2024 following completion of field tasks, and pending all soil and laboratory testing results being available. The final report is anticipated to be presented to the Utilities Commission in January.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

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### **STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

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### **COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED**

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