

## TASK ORDER

This is Task Order No. 2025-01,  
consisting of 4 pages.  
Columbus Utilities  
*2025 Columbus Utilities Water Quality  
Trading Assistance*

### Task Order

In accordance with Paragraph 1.1 of the Master Professional Service Agreement between the Columbus Utilities (Utilities) and Ruekert & Mielke, Inc. (R/M) for Professional Services – Task Order Edition, dated March 19, 2019 ("Agreement"), City and R/M agree as follows:

#### 1. Specific Project Data

The purpose of this project is to coordinate annual management practice maintenance for the three landowner agreements described in the Utility's Water Quality Trading (WQT) program in 2025. All three landowners have signed agreements on costs and implementation practices. All management practices specified in these agreements were implemented in 2020. The cover crops require annual coordination with Columbia County since they will be planted in different fields each year.

The three landowner agreements involve the Utility purchasing phosphorus credits through the WQT program developed with the assistance of Columbia County and approved by WDNR in 2020. The WQT is being implemented, along with minor changes at the WWTF, to comply with stricter effluent phosphorus requirements needed in 2021 as part of the new WWTF permit.

This task order includes ongoing coordination with Columbia County and the Utility regarding practice maintenance, reporting, and approval in 2025. This Task Order includes up to twenty-four (24) hours of meetings, email correspondence, and phone calls with Columbia County in 2025.

The three landowner projects are listed below:

- A. Project No. 1 is the coordination for the Utility to buy credits from the WI Conference Water Quality Trading Project.
- B. Project No. 2 is the coordination for the Utility to buy credits from the Rhodes Bake-N-Serv Water Quality Trading Project.
- C. Project No. 3 is the coordination for the Utility to buy credits from the Stibb Farms Water Quality Trading Project.

This Task Order will include up to sixteen (16) hours of time for the preparation and submittal of the 2024 Annual Water Quality Trading Report required by Section 5.2 of the Utility's WPDES Permit No. WI-0021008 (report is due in early 2025). This report will include the number of pollutant reduction credits used per month from the previous year, the source of the credits as detailed in the WQT plan, a summary of the annual inspections for management practices, and identification of any noncompliance with the permit. This Annual Report must also demonstrate the continued need for the program and summarize the compliance record of the Utility.

Additionally, this task order will include an update to the WQT Plan with submittal and approval by the WDNR. This is required since the Utility will be starting a new permit term in 2025. R/M will coordinate with Columbia County to obtain more recent soil samples for the fields that in in production and to run an updated SNAP PLUS model using the updated soil samples. The Utility has an agreement with Columbia County for these trading support services. The WQT Plan will have a new trade ratio with a new value for the Delivery Factor in accordance with new WDNR guidance that was finalized since the original WQT was approved in 2020.

#### 2. Scope of Services for R/M

- A. Coordination with Columbia County and the Utility regarding practice maintenance and approval for management practices implemented in 2020, that do not require annual implementation. This will include up to three (3) total meetings, (one (1)

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meeting for each project), as well as phone calls and email correspondence with the Utility, the County, and the landowners.

- B. Coordination with Columbia County and the Utility regarding implementation, management, and approval for those management practices which do require annual implementation (i.e., cover crops). This will include one (1) meeting, as well as phone calls and email correspondence with the Utility, the County, and the landowner.
- C. Preparation of the 2024 Annual Water Quality Trading Report (due in early 2025) and submittal to WDNR, including any necessary coordination with WDNR.
- D. Write an updated WQT Plan. Coordinate with Columbia County for updated soil samples on select fields and for the County to re-run the SNAP PLUS model. Determine a new trade ratio using a new Delivery Factor. Submit the plan to the WDNR and receive approval.

### 3. **Utility's Responsibilities**

The Utility shall have those responsibilities as set forth in Section II of the Agreement, subject to the following:

- A. Attend landowner meetings.
- B. Attend internal Utility meetings, participate in conference calls, and provide feedback on landowner agreements.
- C. Approve pay requests after inspection and confirmation of practices by County.

### 4. **Items Excluded**

The following items are excluded from the Scope of Services.

- A. WWTF WQT:
  - 1. Agreement revisions or amendments to landowner agreements.
  - 2. Obtaining new WQT projects.
  - 3. Landowner meetings not specifically listed above in the scope of services.
  - 4. Additional meetings, email correspondence, and phone calls with Columbia County beyond hours included in the scope of services.
  - 5. Site visits for official confirmation of WQT practices.
  - 6. Future work associated with WQT practice coordination or implementation after 2025.
  - 7. SNAP PLUS modeling needed for WQT Plan. To be done by Columbia County with separate fee arrangement between County and Utility.

### 5. **Times for Rendering Services**

Schedules are subject to change due to activities beyond the control of R/M. In general, the tentative schedule is as follows:

- A. Coordination of WQT Practice Maintenance, Implementation, and Approval — Spring through Winter, 2025.
- B. Update of WQT Plan with submittal and approval by WDNR – March 31, 2025.

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### 6. **Payments to R/M**

A. Utility shall pay R/M for services rendered as follows:

<b>Category of Services</b>	<b>Compensation Method</b>	<b>Estimate of Compensation for Services</b>
Coordination with County for Practice Maintenance and Approval for 3 Landowners	Hourly	\$3,075
Prepare and Submit 2024 Annual Water Quality Trading Report	Hourly	\$2,012
Prepare and Submit Updated Water Quality Trading Plan as Required By WDNR	Hourly	\$3,244
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$8,331</b>

B. Detailed breakdown of Hours for the WWTF WQT Programs is attached as Exhibit B.

C. The terms of payment are set forth in Section III and Exhibit A of the Agreement.

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TASK ORDER NO. 2025-01  
2025 COLUMBUS UTILITIES WATER QUALITY TRADING ASSISTANCE  
Between Columbus Utilities  
and  
Ruekert & Mielke, Inc.  
Dated January 17, 2025

Terms and Conditions: Execution of this Task Order by Utility and R/M shall make it subject to the terms and conditions of the agreement (as modified above), which Agreement is incorporated by this reference. R/M is authorized to begin performance upon its receipt of a copy of this Task Order signed by Utility.

The Effective Date of this Task Order is January 23, 2025.

OWNER:

Columbus Utilities

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

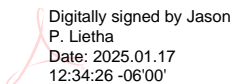
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ENGINEER:

Ruekert & Mielke, Inc.

Signature: Jason P. Lietha  Digitally signed by Jason P. Lietha  
Date: 2025.01.17 12:34:26 -06'00'

Name: Jason P. Lietha, P.E.

Title: Senior Vice President

Date: January 17, 2025

### DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE FOR TASK ORDER

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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