



## City of Colusa California

### STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** October 4, 2022  
**TO:** City of Colusa Mayor and Council Members  
**FROM:** Jesse Cain, City Manager

#### **AGENDA ITEM:**

Subject: City of Colusa wastewater state compliance project.

**Recommendation:** Council to consider approving Resolution approving the contract with SF metalworks fabrication company.

#### **BACKGROUND ANALYSIS:**

The City of Colusa's wastewater treatment plant was built in 2008, therefore it is now 14 years old.

Since the plant was built, we have had to have the UV channel recoated with epoxy in the past and now it's time to look at doing that again. The City has been experiencing some total chloroform violations for the last couple of years. Working with the State of California and the on-call City engineers we have come up with what the State of California calls a compliance project that will help solve the total chloroform violations. Total chloroform violations are minimum mandatory fines. The State allows jurisdictions to come up with plans to spend money on fixing the problems rather than paying them.

Staff has been working with the State for the past few months on trying to figure out why the City is getting these random total chloroform hits. The City's current limit is a seven-day average of 2.2 mg/L. Most of the time the results are <1.8, which is the minimum detection limit. The City has one of the most restrictive DPDES permits in the State and have no dilution credits like most plants. Most other plants have limits of 23mg/L or higher but now the State is cracking down on them as well, which puts the City ahead of the game.

Staff knows our wastewater plant inside and are trying to figure out what is going on after researching and going over all of the data for the last few years. Staff thought perhaps it was sampling errors so staff pulled samples for a while and still was getting random results. Therefore, we thought perhaps that it may be lab issues. Staff talked to the State and told them that we are going start pulling side by side samples to see if we get the same results.

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Staff started pulling side by side samples about three months ago after the first month's results. We could see that there was a difference in the lab results but wanted to make sure so we continued pulling side by side samples to make sure it became clear that the City needs to change labs. The City has now changed labs. Even though the City may have found the problem, the City may still have upsets from time to time because we cannot control what people dump down the drain and the plant is very sensitive to changes.

The UV channel is getting worn out and it still needs to be updated. After looking into the costs of just re epoxying the channel and looking at what new plants are installing, installing a stainless-steel insert into the channel would be a better long-term solution. If installed correctly the City could get 20 years of service out of the stainless steel rather than just a few years out of the epoxy.

This item was brought to the City Council at the August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting asking to waive the RFP process as this would be a specialized project and enter a contract with SF metalworks. The City Council directed staff to send out a request for proposal (RFP). The project was posted on the plan houses for public works projects in the local paper and on the City's website.

The City of Colusa only received one bid. The bid is from SF Metalworks in the amount of \$87,302. This project is specialized in the matter that the new stainless-steel insert will have to be custom built on site with no room for mistakes to issue a proper seal and flow rate.

There are other things that staff will be upgrading at the wastewater treatment plant over the next year our filter system is no longer supported and if and when it fails they do not make any controls for that, so we are looking at changing out the control system to the new standards later this fall/winter. Because we have a lot of computer operated equipment their life span is short, so the City has to stay on top of the replacement of them.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** \$87,302 out of the wastewater fund

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Council to approve the Resolution approving the Contract with SF metal works.

**ATTACHMENTS** Resolution 22  
SF Metal work contract