



Hazen and Sawyer
4011 WestChase Boulevard, Suite 500
Raleigh, NC 27607 • 919.833.7152

December 1, 2023

Mr. Adam Steurer, PE
Utilities Director
City of Hendersonville
305 Williams Street
Hendersonville, NC 28792

**Re: Sole Source Equipment Recommendations
Hendersonville Water Treatment Facility Filter Expansion Project**

Dear Mr. Steurer:

This letter is to provide the basis for the recommended specification of certain brands of equipment that have no equal for the Hendersonville Water Treatment Facility (WTF) Filter Expansion Project.

North Carolina General Statute 133-3 states: *“where it is impossible to specify performance and design characteristics for such materials and impossible to cite three or more items due to the fact that there are not that many items of similar or equivalent design in competition, than as many items as are available shall be cited.”* Hazen and Sawyer has followed the statute during the design process for the project. However, the design includes several equipment items which are recommended to be sole sourced:

- Filter underdrains and air scour equipment by Roberts
- Valve actuators by AUMA

Roberts Filter Underdrains and Air Scour Equipment

The existing filters (Nos. 1, 2, 4, and 5) are equipped with “Wheeler bottom” underdrains which are composed of precast sections supported by reinforced concrete piers. Each precast section has integral hoppers with porcelain spheres used to balance flow distribution and support the overlaying layers of gravel, which in turn support the filter media (sand and anthracite). Stainless steel laterals positioned at the sand-gravel interface are used to supply air for scouring the media during backwash operations. These laterals are fed by stainless steel piping headers which extend from the pipe gallery into each filter cell. Due to years of successful operation in Filters 1, 2, 4, and 5, City operations staff desire to utilize this same underdrain and air scour design for the new Filter No. 3. The Roberts Filter Group (Roberts) is the sole provider of the “Wheeler bottom” underdrain and “Aries” air scour technology. Sole sourcing the Roberts filter underdrains and air scour equipment will allow for consolidation of spare parts inventory and tools as well as leveraging existing operation and maintenance knowledge.



AUMA Valve Actuators

The City utilizes AUMA valve actuators throughout the existing WTF process. The new Filter No. 3 will have nine (9) new motor-actuated butterfly valves located within the pipe gallery. Sole sourcing the AUMA valve actuators will allow for standardization across the WTF for operation, spare parts, and tools.

Hazen will follow the steps outlined in the North Carolina Local Government Law Blog and allow submittal of any alternate items for our review provided they are submitted at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the scheduled bid opening.

We recommend that the City sole source the equipment items listed above as they will provide the best value for the City. Please let us know if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jared Hostetler". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed over a light blue rectangular background.

Jared Hostetler, PE
Associate

cc: Devin Owen, EI
David Briley, PE
Cory Hopkins, PE
Carter Day