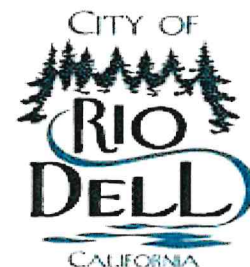


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August 19, 2025

TO: Rio Dell City Council

FROM: Kyle Knopp, City Manager

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Scope of Services agreement with the City Engineer, GHD for a Frac-out Contingency Plan for the Eel River Water Pipeline Crossing.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Authorize the City Manager to execute the attached Scope; or,

Take no action.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

In January of 2021 the City of Rio Dell began the process of applying for a Hazard Mitigation Program grant related to reconfiguring the water distribution system from the US101 SB bridge to a directionally drilled and seismically resilient crossing near CC Market.

Phase one of the project got underway in January of 2023 and is now completed and waiting for FEMA's approval to move to Phase II. FEMA is now saying that in order for Phase II to be approved, a "Frac-out Contingency Plan" must be developed and submitted. A *frac-out* is an unintended release of drilling fluid into the surrounding environment through cracks or fractures. This can pose environmental risks such as smothering aquatic life or damaging vegetation. Its historically done just before construction, when all methods, information and even the actual contractor performing the work is known. In FEMA's wisdom though, now, it is being requested very early in the process without much explanation.

FEMA has not made funding available for this plan in Phase I, but the city can be reimbursed for the work in Phase II – if Phase II is approved. As a result, the City of Rio Dell is being asked to take on additional risk to move this HMGP project forward in addition to the City's 25% cost share. The cost of developing this plan is at a not to exceed amount of \$18,000.

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Scope of Services
City of Rio Dell
Frac-out Contingency Plan for Eel River Water Pipeline Crossing

Prepared by: GHD Inc.

This agreement for services relates to a prime agreement dated January 21, 2019. All provisions of the prime agreement apply to this scope of services unless specifically stated otherwise in this scope.

UNDERSTANDING

The City of Rio Dell applied for and was awarded funding for Eel River Crossing Pipeline Seismic Retrofit Project through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), which is funded through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and administered by the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The Project will replace the existing vulnerable water pipeline routed across the California Highway 101 South Bridge over the Eel River with a resilient pipeline under the Eel River to address seismic hazards in Rio Dell, California. The Eel River Pipeline serves as the only connection between the Metro Wells water source and most of the City's customers. The Eel River Pipeline is susceptible to seismic damage. It was bonded with glue and is resting unrestrained on pipe stands. The Highway 101 southbound bridge is owned and maintained by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The City has an easement for the pipeline, but access is difficult and the City has no control over maintenance of the Bridge. Damage to the bridge or the Eel River Pipeline would result in the City losing the connection between the Metro Wells and most of the City's water customers.

The City was approved for funding on Phase one of the project, which included a 60% design, environmental analysis, and grant management support. For the award of the next phase of funding for final design and construction, FEMA has requested the City complete a Frac-out Plan that would address potential inadvertent release of drilling fluid during Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) operations, where the fluid escapes the borehole and surfaces at an unintended location. The frac-out plan was included in the HMGP scope in Phase two, but FEMA is requiring a preliminary version before the Phase two funding can be approved as part of the environmental analysis for the project.

The cost of the frac-out plan is an eligible HMGP cost, however, until Phase two fund are approved, the City would not be reimbursed. The scope of work to complete the preliminary frac-out to secure project Phase two funding is presented below.

Scope of Work

GHD will prepare the preliminary Frac-Out Contingency Plan (FOCP) for HDD for the subject project using available site-specific information in coordination with state and federal requirements. The

purpose of this FOCp is to address risks and identify mitigation measures for implementation of the Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) proposed for the City of Rio Dell's new Eel River Crossing pipeline.

The FOCp will consist of the following key sections:

1. Purpose
2. Project Summary
 - a. Project Name
 - b. Permittee
 - c. Location
 - d. Receiving Waterbody
 - e. Crossing Type
3. Background about HDD method/Description of HDD and Drilling Fluid
4. Semi-Qualitative Risk Assessment/Pre-Construction Risk Evaluation
5. Monitoring Procedures/Monitoring Protocol
6. Frac-Out Response Measures/Procedures to deal with frac-out incident
 - a. Initial Response/Immediate Response
 - b. Regulatory Notifications (USACE/DEQ/EPA)
 - c. Containment and Cleanup/Cleanup and Restoration
 - d. Communications and Notifications
7. Prevention and Mitigation Measures
8. Equipment, Personnel, and Materials to deal with frac-out incident
9. Documentation and Reporting
10. Necessary Contacts

Deliverables

- Draft Preliminary FOCp
- Final Preliminary FOCp

Assumptions

- A preliminary FOCp (Frac-Out Contingency Plan) will be developed based on currently available information. Site-specific investigations are excluded from the current scope of work.
- A single round of review and comments by the Client on the preliminary FOCp.
- Responses to any comments received from FEMA and regulatory agencies will fall under an additional scope of work, subject to separate authorization.
- The preliminary FOCp is intended to serve as a general guide and must be reviewed and updated by the Construction Contractor for application during the construction phase.
- The Construction Contractor shall bear full responsibility for preventing frac-out incidents during Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) operations and for managing all associated issues should a frac-out occur during construction.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

GHD will commence work on the project following receipt of an executed agreement, and complete within four weeks of execution.

COMPENSATION

GHD will complete the above scope of services on a time and materials basis, not to exceed an initial budgeted amount of \$18,000 without further written authorization.

Payment to GHD is not contingent upon the City receiving funds from outside sources. All invoices are due and payable within 30 days of the date of the invoice.

GHD will use the attached rates by class for this work, including annual increases.

AGREED

City of Rio Dell

GHD

Kyle Knopp, City Manager Date

Ann Bechtel, Business Group Leader Date



Construction Costs

Item No.	Description	Quantity	Units	Unit Cost	Total Cost
1	Mobilization/Demobilization (10%)	1	LS	\$138,589	\$138,589
2	Construction Staking	1	LS	\$5,750	\$5,750
3	Traffic Control	1	LS	\$11,500	\$11,500
4	Water Pollution Control	1	LS	\$23,000	\$23,000
5	As-Needed Distribution System Demolition and Disposal	13,155	SF	\$8	\$105,898
6	Potholing	9	EA	\$2,300	\$20,700
7	10-inch Water Main for Eel River Crossing	1,780	LF	\$1,035	\$1,842,300
8	10-inch Water Main and Appurtenances (Northwestern Ave., N Pacific Ave.)	3,020	LF	\$230	\$694,600
9	10-inch Gate Valve (Not Included in Fire Hydrant Assemblies)	12	EA	\$4,600	\$55,200
10	Fire Hydrant Assembly	3	EA	\$13,800	\$41,400
11	Air Relief Valve	3	EA	\$5,750	\$17,250
12	Final Paving	13,155	SF	\$9	\$121,026
Base Bid Total				\$ -	\$ 3,077,212.55
ADDITIVE BID ITEMS				\$ -	
14	20" Steel Casing Pipe	250	LF	\$460	\$115,000
15	Removal of Existing 8" Yelomine Pipe within Caltrans Bridge	1	LS	\$57,500	\$ 57,500.00
Additive Bid Total					\$ 172,500.00
CONSTRUCTION SUB-TOTAL					\$ 3,249,712.55
Soft Engineering Costs (Easement Purchase and Coordination)		1	LS	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Sub-Total Opinion of Construction Cost - Base Bid (Rounded)					\$ 3,249,800
Contingency & Escalation 10%					\$ 324,980
Total Opinion of Construction Cost - Base Bid (Rounded)					\$ 3,594,800

Eel River Crossing Pipeline Seismic Retrofit Project

Date: 5-Aug-25

	FEMA Total	FEMA 75% Grant	City Committed (Phase 1A Match)	Total	DWSRF Ask
SRF Financing Summary					
A. Construction Cost	\$ 2,224,360	\$ 1,668,270	\$ -	\$ 3,249,713	\$ 1,581,443
B. Pre-Purchase Material/Equipment					\$ -
C. Purchase Land	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,250		\$ 20,000	\$ 17,750
D. Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 324,980	\$ 324,980
E. Allowances					
1. Planning	\$ 119,600	\$ 89,700	\$ -	\$ 119,600	\$ 29,900
2. Design	\$ 632,200	\$ 474,150	\$ 44,989	\$ 632,200	\$ 113,061
3. Construction Management	\$ 346,500	\$ 259,875	\$ -	\$ 346,500	\$ 86,625
4. Administration	\$ 12,000	\$ 9,000	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ 3,000
5. Value Engineering					\$ -
Allowances Subtotal	\$ 1,110,300	\$ 832,725	\$ 44,989	\$ 1,110,300	\$ 232,586
TOTAL	\$ 3,337,660	\$ 2,503,245	\$ 44,989	\$ 4,704,993	\$ 2,156,758
Total SRF Financing Requested					\$ 2,156,758
Potential FEMA HMGP Budget Amendment		\$ 1,025,499			