



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Public Works / LCSD
Department No.: 054
Agenda Date: August 19, 2025
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Laguna County Sanitation District
FROM: Department Director(s): Chris Sneddon, P.E., PW Director
Contact: Martin Wilder, P.E., LCSD Manager

SUBJECT: **Statement of Final Quantities for Photovoltaic Power Generation System Repair**
Project at the Laguna County Sanitation District Wastewater Reclamation Plant,
Fourth and Fifth Supervisorial Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Statement of Final Quantities for the construction of the Photovoltaic Power Generation System Repair Project; Board Contract Number BC24273, on file in the Public Works Department, for work performed and materials supplied by Motive Energy Storage Systems, LLC (not a local vendor), in the amount of \$309,938.51, and
- b) Determine that the above-recommended action is not a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)[5], finding that the action consists of an administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to approve the statement of final quantities for the Photovoltaic Power Generation System Repair Project, Project No. SOLRP1, for the Laguna County Sanitation District. The Board of Directors awarded the construction of the project to Motive Energy Storage Systems,

LLC on February 25, 2025, for a construction contract amount of \$298,972.51 and a contingency amount of up to \$30,000.

The project consisted of repairing approximately 59 faulty panels and approximately 4,000 electrical connectors. The project started construction on March 24, 2025. The Director of Public Works accepted this project as complete on May 31, 2025. The project was completed within budget and on time.

Discussion:

The Laguna County Sanitation District recently completed a project with Motive Energy Storage Systems, LLC to repair faulty photovoltaic solar panels and electrical connectors at its 1-megawatt solar facility. The solar facility generates electricity to offset costs for the Laguna County Sanitation District wastewater reclamation facility. The project started construction on March 24, 2025 and the Director of Public Works accepted this project as complete on May 31, 2025. The project included one contract change order at \$10,966.00 which covered additional work to repair damaged fuses that were found after the project started, as well as replacement of panel clamps which were found to be faulty. The change order was within the approved contingency amount which was \$30,000.00. The total project cost, once completed, was \$309,938.51. Overall, the project was completed on time and within budget per the Attachment A Statement of Final Quantities.

Background:

The Laguna County Sanitation District operates a wastewater reclamation facility serving the Orcutt community and southern unincorporated Santa Maria area, with a 1-megawatt solar photovoltaic facility operational since March 2012. The photovoltaic facility, consisting of 4,056 ground-mounted panels, offsets electricity costs but requires periodic maintenance due to component aging. A 2023 repair project replaced and upgraded inverters due to obsolescence and reduced performance. Subsequent analysis identified 59 faulty panels (due to weathering and water damage) and degraded panel wire connectors with faulty O-rings, necessitating replacement.

On October 15, 2024, the Board authorized the Public Works Director to advertise and receive bids for the project. One bid was received on November 21, 2024, submitted by Motive Energy Storage Systems, LLC in the amount of \$298,972.51. This was 3.05% higher than the engineer's estimate which was \$290,000. Staff found the bidder to be responsible and the bid to be responsive and on February 25, 2025, the contract was awarded. The contract also included a construction contingency of \$30,000 for a total budget authorization of \$328,972.51.

The repair project was determined to be within the scope of the 2012 Final Mitigated Negative Declaration (10NGD-00000-00025) for the Photovoltaic Solar Energy Project, per CEQA Guidelines Section 15162, requiring no new CEQA documentation. It also was completed in compliance with the Final Habitat Conservation Plan dated February 2017 and Incidental Take Permit Number TE16913C, and applicable avoidance and minimization measures were implemented. Approval of the statement of final quantities is an administrative activity to formally close and acknowledge completion of the project and is therefore not a project subject to CEQA.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 24-25	Total
General Fund		
State		
Federal		
Fees		
LCSD Operations Revenue	\$309,938.51	\$309,938.51
Total		\$309,938.51

Special Instructions:

It is requested that the Clerk of the Board:

- A. Forward a certified minute order and one fully executed construction contract to Kevin Thompson and Cori Munguia at the Laguna County Sanitation District administrative office in the North County Public Works Department building at 620 West Foster Road, Santa Maria, CA 93455

Attachments:

Attachment A – Statement of Final Quantities for SOLRP1

Contact Information:

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Copy:

Angela Arredondo, Accountant Supervising
File