



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

Department Name: Planning &  
Development  
Department No.: 053  
For Agenda Of: June 15, 2021  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Time: N/A  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

---

TO: Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Department Lisa Plowman, Director of Planning & Development, 568-2084  
Director:  
Contact Info: John Zorovich, Deputy Director, Energy, Minerals & Compliance  
Division, 568-2519  
SUBJECT: **Agreement for Professional Services between the County of Santa Barbara and  
Storrer Environmental Services, LLC for Integrated EQAP Monitoring for  
Energy, Minerals & Compliance Division Projects**

---

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

- A. Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the attached professional services Agreement between the County of Santa Barbara and Storrer Environmental Services, LLC for a period of five years, commencing July 1, 2021 and terminating on June 30, 2026, to provide the Integrated Environmental Quality Assurance Program (EQAP) monitoring services to the Energy, Minerals & Compliance Division with a base amount of \$2,636,905.80, plus a 10 percent contingency fund of \$263,690.58, for a total not to exceed amount of \$2,900,596.38.
- B. Approve and authorize the Director of Planning and Development, or designee, to approve up to a 10% contingency cost not to exceed \$263,690.58 to cover unforeseen increased monitoring needs for a total contract amount not to exceed \$2,900,596.38 including the contingency.
- C. Approve and authorize the Director of Planning and Development, or designee, to make immaterial changes in accordance with Section 35 of the Agreement.
- D. Determine that the recommend action is not a "Project" under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) because it is an organizational or administrative activity of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. [Attachment 3].

**Summary Text:**

Pursuant to County policy, the Energy, Minerals & Compliance Division “Division” conducted a competitive bid process for a new, five-year professional services Agreement for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026 to provide Integrated Environmental Quality Assurance Program (EQAP) monitoring services to the Division, as required by Public Resources Code Section 21081.6 and certain project-specific permit conditions. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was sent to the following five local consulting firms: Dudek & Associates, Storrer Environmental Services, LLC, Arcadis, Rincon Consultants and Stantec. Only one firm submitted a proposal for the EQAP contract: Storrer Environmental Services, LLC (the current EQAP Contractor). Because of the specialized nature of the work, the other four consulting firms that did not submit a proposal and stated that they would have difficulty in providing qualified staffing, amongst other challenges.

The Storrer Environmental Services LLC proposal meets the requirements of the RFP. Staff recommends awarding the five-year contract to Storrer Environmental Services, LLC based on their relevant long-term experience, proven technical approach, well-qualified personnel, excellent rapport with both staff and industry, demonstrated reliability, and reasonable billing rates.

This Agreement includes the following tasks:

- Field monitoring of construction and abandonment projects;
- Field monitoring of ongoing revegetation, landscaping programs, erosion control, restoration and damage repair;
- Field monitoring for special programs, studies or environmental specialists;
- Emergency (e.g., spills, floods, earthquakes) field monitoring;
- Periodic inspections of facilities;
- Reporting to Energy, Minerals & Compliance Division;
- Technical support for environmental review; and,
- Background review of technical documents and site mobilization (as necessary).

This Agreement would be on a time-and-materials basis to execute the EQAP monitoring tasks authorized by the Division. Appendix A & B of the attached Agreement provide an estimated scope of work and budget fee each individual project which would be authorized by the Division on an as-needed basis. Actual work load and costs may vary due to the variability of actual monitoring needs and whether the projects listed in the Proposal are constructed or not. A 10% contingency is included in the Agreement to cover unforeseen increased monitoring needs such as new or revised projects and response and follow-up for a large-scale environmental emergency, such as a major oil spill.

**Background:**

Since 1986, the County has retained consultants to assist in field monitoring for the construction, operation and abandonment of oil and gas facilities related to offshore oil production. Until 1994, the County held separate contracts, often with separate consultants, for each major project. In 1994, after a competitive bid process, the Board of Supervisors executed a two-year contract with Storrer Environmental Services to provide an Integrated EQAP for field monitoring and other permit compliance monitoring assistance for nearly all of the major oil and gas projects. Since 1997, Storrer Environmental Services has been awarded the last six EQAP contracts through a competitive bidding process, based upon their technical skills, professionalism, excellent working relationship with both staff and industry, and cost-effective methods for achieving the County’s mitigation monitoring goals and objectives.

---

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts and Fiscal Analysis:**

**Budgeted:** Yes. These services are currently budgeted in the Permitting Budget Program on page D-294 of the County of Santa Barbara Fiscal Year 2020–21 adopted budget.

To effectively direct Contractor activities and control costs, Notices to Proceed would be issued at the beginning of each fiscal year for the project activities that are known or anticipated to occur during that time frame, based upon projections developed between Division staff and the Contractor. The Contractor would then invoice monthly for the services provided and the Planning & Development Department would bill the appropriate permittees as part of the normal monthly billing cycle. All costs incurred under this Agreement would be borne completely by those project applicants/owners who receive the EQAP services, as required by the existing reimbursement agreements between the County and the permittees. Staff would direct and monitor the Contractor's work to ensure timely completion of contract tasks and to monitor and control costs. Additional Notices to Proceed would be issued as necessary, if specific monitoring needs change during the term of the Agreement.

**Key Contract Risks:**

A risk analysis was performed and the proposed contractual agreement rated a **medium** risk due to its moderate complexity, five-year term, limited number of bidders, and moderate visibility. The recommended Contractor, Storrer Environmental Services, has provided the Integrated EQAP monitoring services since 1997, pursuant to six previous competitively bid contracts. The County has consistently received excellent services from Storrer Environmental Services under these contracts. The Agreement indemnifies County agents, officers, and employees from all claims that arise from activities performed under the Agreement and no claims have been made by either the County or Storrer Environmental Services under previous EQAP monitoring contracts.

**Special Instructions:**

Please forward a duplicate original executed Agreement and a copy of the Minute Order to Crysta Rider, P&D Accounting. Please forward one copy of the executed Agreement and one copy of the Minute Order to Errin Briggs, P&D Energy, Minerals & Compliance Division.

**Attachments:**

Attachment 1 – Storrer Environmental Services, LLC Contract

Attachment 2 – Board Contract Summary

Attachment 3 – Notice of CEQA Exemption

**Authored by:** Errin Briggs, Supervising Planner, ext. 568-2047