



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:** Public Works  
**Department No.:** 054  
**For Agenda Of:** June 25, 2024  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Chris Sneddon, P.E., Director, (805) 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Jeanette Gonzales-Knight, P.E., Deputy Director, Interim,  
(805) 882-3605  
**SUBJECT:** Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with SCS Engineers, Inc.,  
Third Supervisorial District

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence: Risk Management**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Agreement for Services of Independent Contractor with Stearns, Conrad, and Schmidt Consulting Engineers, Inc. doing business as SCS Engineers, Inc. to provide field services for the Tajiguas Landfill and ReSource Center gas systems of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$315,040; and
- b) Determine that pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15162 no substantial changes are proposed, and no new information of substantial importance has come to light regarding environmental effects of the project or of the sufficiency or feasibility of mitigation measures, and therefore the contract for monitoring, reporting, operational support, and regulatory compliance services for the Tajiguas Landfill is within the scope of the project covered by the Tajiguas Landfill Expansion Project EIR (01-EIR-05) certified by the Board of Supervisors on August 13, 2002, the Addendum to 01-EIR-05 dated November 8, 2006 and accepted by the Board of Supervisors on December 5, 2006, and the Tajiguas Landfill Reconfiguration and Baron Ranch Restoration Project Subsequent EIR (08-EIR-00000-00007) (SCH No. 2008201052) certified by the Board of Supervisors on May 5, 2009, and for the ReSource Center facilities, is within the scope of the project covered by the Final Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (12EIR-00000-000020) SCH #2012041068 and Subsequent EIR Revision Letter and Errata dated May 27, 2016 certified by

the Board of Supervisors on July 12, 2016, Final Subsequent EIR Addendum dated August 11, 2017 (revised October 26, 2017) considered by the Board of Supervisors on November 14, 2017, and second Addendum dated August 15, 2023 considered by the Board on October 3, 2023 and November 7, 2023, therefore, no subsequent Environmental Impact Reports or Negative Declarations shall be prepared for this action.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda in order to approve a service agreement with Stearns, Conrad, and Schmidt Consulting Engineers, Inc. doing business as SCS Engineers, Inc. in the amount of \$315,040 through June 30, 2025 for field services related to management of the Tajiguas Landfill and ReSource Center. These services support the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) flare and blower, siloxane reduction system, Anaerobic Digestion Facility (ADF) flare and blower, landfill gas management, and condensate management system; including monitoring, reporting, operational support, regulatory compliance in accordance with the Solid Waste Facility, Water Board and Air Pollution Control District permits.

**Background:**

The County of Santa Barbara owns and operates the Tajiguas Landfill and ReSource Center. The ReSource Center facilities consisting of the MRF, a dry fermentation ADF, and Compost Management Unit (CMU) that produces compost from organics recovered from the region's municipal solid waste as well as source separated food waste, was constructed as a means to divert waste in order to preserve the life of the landfill as well as in consideration of other environmental factors such as compliance with SB 1383. These facilities have been in service since Fall of 2021, but are not yet fully commissioned. Due to inability to complete and successfully operate portions of the facility, the agreement with MSB Investors was partially terminated on December 12, 2023, and fully terminated on January 3, 2024. Since then, the County has assumed contractual arrangements with MarBorg Recovery, LP for the operation of the MRF, and is operating the ADF and CMU.

One aspect of the operation of the landfill and ReSource Center is the management of gases generated onsite. This includes landfill gas as well as biogas produced by the ADF. The scope of work involves the monitoring and testing associated with the MRF flare station and gas blower, monitoring and testing the siloxane removal system, monitoring and testing of the ADF blower and flare, and various preventative maintenance and on call service activities. The contract also provides for the monitoring and testing of the landfill condensate, which is a liquid that forms upon collection and processing of landfill gas.

Approval of the Agreement with SCS Engineers, Inc. will assist the County in continued compliance with regulatory requirements for operations of the gas facilities located at the Tajiguas Landfill and ReSource Center. SCS Engineers, Inc. is recommended based on their professional qualifications, local engineering experience, and satisfactory performance at the Tajiguas Landfill and ReSource Center since 1999 and 2021, respectively. SCS Engineers, Inc. was previously evaluated and selected through the Public Works Department Prequalified Consultant List for 2022-2024, approved by your Board at the December 14, 2021 hearing.

Pursuant to CEQA, monitoring, reporting, operational support, and regulatory compliance services for the ReSource Center's environmental management systems are required for continued operation of the facilities analyzed in the prior CEQA documents (Final Subsequent EIR 01-EIR-05 and Addendums, and 12EIR-00000-00002 and Addendums and CEQA Guidelines Section 15162 determinations) and therefore pursuant to CEQA no further environmental review is required for the proposed monitoring, reporting, operational support, and regulatory compliance services agreement. The Final Subsequent EIRs and Addendums can be found at <https://www.countyofsb.org/1165/Environmental-Documents>.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

This project is fully funded in the Fiscal Year 2024/25 budget in the Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division's Enterprise Fund 1930. There is no impact to the General Fund.

**Key Contract Risks:**

Key risk factors for this agreement that contribute to an overall medium contract risk rating include: contract size, performance period, project sensitivity, contract management, and the fiscal responsibility of the contractor.

These risk factors have been considered and staff believes the contract should be authorized because the contractor has significant experience performing similar services successfully for the County with no significant issues during their performance over the past years.

Additionally, contract monitoring and document management will be conducted by staff in accordance with the County's Service Contract and Grant Compliance Management Policy (121-111).

**Special Instructions:**

Retain an executed copy of the agreement for Clerk of the Board records and return an executed copy along with a certified minute order to the Public Works Department office at 130 East Victoria Street, Suite 100, Santa Barbara, CA 93101; attention Dalia Khan.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Agreement with SCS Engineers, Inc.

**Authored by:**

Jeanette Gonzales-Knight, P.E., 805-882-3605