

# ACTION BRIEF

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS



### Agenda Number 6.c

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**MEETING DATE:** Thursday, September 7, 2023

**AGENDA ITEM:** Construction Contract for the Noise Reduction Project, Phase 2 at Mark Wilmer Pumping Plant (*Project Reliability*) - Buzard

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the Board of Directors approve a Construction Contract for the Noise Reduction Project, Phase 2 at Mark Wilmer Pumping Plant to Diamond Ridge Development Corporation and authorize the General Manager, or her designee, to execute an agreement up to \$ 1,150,000 plus an additional \$230,000 (20%) for contingencies (totaling \$1,380,000).

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**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** No

**Impact on Budget:**

Work will begin in the third quarter of 2023 and take approximately 3 months to complete. The Project Steering Committee will continue to manage the capitalized project work and expenses within the current approved capital budget.

Additional spending authority requested: None Required

**Impact on Reserves:**

No impact on reserves.

**Impact on Rates:**

No impact on water rates.

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**LINKAGE TO STRATEGIC PLAN, POLICY, STATUTE OR GUIDING PRINCIPLE:**

2022 CAWCD Board Strategic Plan

Project Reliability: *Providing reliable and cost-effective operations, maintenance, and replacement of CAP's infrastructure and technology assets*

**PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION/ACTIVITY:**

November 2021 Board Approved the CAP 2022-2023 Biennial Budget

September 2021 Board Approved First Noise Reduction Project Contract

**ISSUE SUMMARY/DESCRIPTION:**

Noise levels at the Mark Wilmer Pumping Plant have long been a source of exposure and risk of hearing loss for plant employees. Impeller modifications in 2010 helped lower noise levels and resonance, but the noise coming from the large pump pit areas of the plant still contributes to increased levels throughout the plant. Symptoms of working in noisy environments can include health-related problems such as stress, hearing loss, cognitive issues, and fatigue. Mitigating these problems for personnel at Mark Wilmer is driving the implementation of this project.

A complete noise survey of the Mark Wilmer Pumping Plant was conducted in December 2019 as part of CAP's Noise Monitoring Program. Results showed that noise levels in many areas of the plant exceeded 85 dBA and could expose employees to sound levels in excess of recommended limits for long term exposure.

In late 2021, the Noise Reduction Project succeeded in providing meaningful reduction in noise levels by installing sound reduction panels to dampen noise. A noise reduction of 16 decibels was measured after the project was completed. The project was considered successful and eliminated the need for hearing protection in several common areas of the plant. However, upon further evaluation by CAP's property and casualty insurance carrier, concerns arose regarding the fire propagation properties of the sound proofing material installed in a vertical orientation. Although the installed panels had a Class "A" fire rating by the American Society for Testing and Materials and have been installed in several Bureau of Reclamation facilities, CAP's Risk Management office advised further fire-protection measures to be put into place.

To improve fire protection characteristics, a secondary layer of sound reduction panels, with differing material qualities, will be installed over the existing vertical panels. The secondary sound reduction panels will further reduce the sound levels in the plant, provide a more durable surface that protects the existing panels, and reduce fire propagation to acceptable levels.

Diamond Ridge Development Corporation was selected pursuant to a cooperative Job-Order-Contract agreement and in accordance with ARS Title 34 and CAP's Purchasing Policy. This allows CAP to engage a qualified contractor that meets the required criteria and standards without needing to undertake a secondary bidding process. Accordingly, staff engaged Diamond Ridge Development Corporation in scope definition and price negotiation discussions for the required construction scope of work and believes the price of the contract is fair and reasonable.

**SUGGESTED MOTION:**

I move that the Board of Directors approve a Construction Contract for the Noise Reduction Project, Phase 2 at Mark Wilmer Pumping Plant to Diamond Ridge Development Corporation and authorize the General Manager, or her designee, to execute an agreement up to \$1,150,000 plus an additional \$230,000 (20%) for contingencies (totaling \$1,380,000).

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None