



## SUMMARY REPORT

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**Agenda Date:** 8/15/2023

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**To:** Board of Directors, Sonoma County Water Agency  
**Department or Agency Name(s):** Sonoma County Water Agency  
**Staff Name and Phone Number:** Steve Koldis 547-1914  
**Vote Requirement:** Majority  
**Supervisory District(s):** Fifth

**Title:**

Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project Occidental Road Well No. 3 Drilling - Contract Award

**Recommended Action:**

- A) Adopt and approve the Project Manual and Drawings ("plans and specifications") entitled "Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project Occidental Road Well No. 3 Drilling."
- B) Award the contract to Roadrunner Drilling & Pump Company, Inc. for \$1,316,527 for construction of Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project Occidental Road Well No. 3 Drilling and authorize the Chair to execute the contract.
- C) Authorize the General Manager of Sonoma County Water Agency to sign Section 00 65 23 (Agreement and Release of Any and All Claims), with County Counsel review, if any unresolved claims are listed by the contractor.  
(Fifth District)

**Executive Summary:**

This item requests approval of a contract with Roadrunner Drilling & Pump Company for \$1,316,527 for construction of the Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project Occidental Road Well Number 3 Drilling (Project).

The Project will increase drought resiliency by drilling a new well (Well #3) at the Occidental Road well site to replace the existing Well #2. In addition to addressing sanding and other water quality issues encountered by the existing well, the new well is designed to support implementation of Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) operations following construction of additional future improvements in 2024 at the well site. The Project has obtained funding from the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program for \$6.9 million. This grant is intended to pay a portion of the cost to rehabilitate and upgrade two of Sonoma County Water Agency's (Sonoma Water) three well sites in the Santa Rosa Plain, collectively known as the Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project.

**Discussion:**

Sonoma Water owns and operates three well-sites in the Santa Rosa Plain intended to augment water supplies during periods of drought. The Occidental Road Well site, constructed in February 1978, was constructed as a response to the severe drought of 1976-1977. Occidental Road Well #1, is a 16" diameter production well that was drilled to a depth of 830 feet, collapsed to a depth of 600 feet and was subsequently only minimally used for water supply due to sanding problems and the collapsed nature of the well. A second 16-inch diameter

well (Well #2) was drilled at the well site in January 1999 to a depth of 770 feet to replace Well #1. This well has also proven to be problematic over the years as it produces sand, likely due to an improperly designed filter pack and slot size that is not compatible with the fine sand of the aquifer and has poor water quality. Various engineering solutions were attempted to address the sand production with varying success, including the use of a sand-filter intake on the pump bowls, a reduced pumping rate, and pumping to waste into a large tank at start-up to settle the initial load of sand. Well #2 was utilized for production relatively continuously between 2000 and 2009 and again during the previous drought of 2013 to 2015 and has generally been offline since 2015.

Sonoma Water intends to destroy existing Wells # 1 and # 2 and drill a replacement well (Well #3) at the Occidental Road well facility as part of the DWR-funded Santa Rosa Plain Drought Resiliency Project in response to the recent drought. In addition to serving as a production well, the planned Well #3 has been designed with the capacity to accommodate future planned ASR operations to increase water supply resiliency. The design of Well #3 has been informed by down-hole investigations of Well #2, including video surveys of the well's condition, vertical flow profiling, and depth discrete water quality sampling. These investigations identified the higher production zones within the aquifer and deeper zones of poor water quality. These findings have been incorporated into the plans and specifications in order to limit and reduce the sanding and water quality problems that have plagued Wells #1 and #2.

Specifically, Well #3 will be constructed of stainless steel to avoid the production of sulfur reducing bacteria. The depth is limited to 530 feet to reduce water quality impacts and take advantage of zones of high flow. A smaller slot size and filter pack will be utilized to limit sanding of the well. Destruction of both Wells #1 and #2 is being performed, as per established procedures for wells not intended to be utilized and to eliminate potential sources of sulfur reducing bacteria associated with their mild steel well casings, which may be the cause of some of the previous water quality issues.

The future ASR operations planned for Well #3 will rely upon a stricter standard of care to be implemented during construction to ensure a good connection between the well, the filter pack and the aquifer. The well has been designed for a production flow of approximately 1500 gallons per minute (gpm) and a recharge flow of approximately 500 gpm. Actual production and recharge flows will be determined following construction, development, and testing of Well #3. Future ASR operations for Well #3 will be determined through ASR pilot testing of the well planned for late 2024 and early 2025. In general, it is anticipated that treated drinking water sourced from Sonoma Water's riverbank filtration system on the Russian River will recharge Well #3 during the winter and spring months when excess river flows are typically available and stored within the aquifer and recovered during summer and fall months or during future drought periods.

Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project Occidental Road Well Number 3 Drilling consists of construction of one new potable water supply well and destruction of two existing wells located at 5610 Occidental Road, Santa Rosa, California. The Work includes, but is not limited to, construction of an 18-inch diameter stainless steel aquifer storage and recovery municipal well to a depth of approximately 530 feet via reverse rotary drilling methods, including the installation of conductor casing, drilling of a pilot borehole, collection of formation samples, reaming the borehole, conducting geophysical and other borehole surveys, well development, aquifer testing, and disinfection; and destruction of two existing wells. Work shall be completed within 150 Days from the date when Contract Time commences to run.

California Environmental Quality Act

Sonoma Water's General Manager has determined that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project is statutorily exempt under Statute 21080(b)(4) and State CEQA Guidelines Section 15269(b)(c), which provide that specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency are exempt from CEQA; categorically exempt from CEQA under State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301(b)(f) and 15304(f). The project is exempt under Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-7-22, issued on March 28, 2022, which suspends CEQA for certain drought-related projects, including drought mitigation projects such as the Santa Rosa Plain wells project. Notice of Exemption was posted for construction and the pilot study for Aquifer Storage and Recovery on January 30, 2023.

Competitive Process, Selection & Cost Detail

Project was advertised for bids: 05/12/2023

Bids were opened: 06/13/2023

Bids for construction of said Project were received on June 13, 2023, as follows:

The Engineer's Estimate was \$1,454,440.

Zim Industries, Inc., Fresno, California	\$1,547,454
Nor-Cal Pump & Well Drilling, Inc., Yuba City, California	\$1,481,036
WildHeron Drilling, Rocklin, California	\$ 968,769
Roadrunner Drilling & Pump Company, Inc., Woodland, California	\$1,316,527

The bid from WildHeron Drilling was found to be incomplete and therefore non-responsive.

The lowest responsive and responsible bid is from Roadrunner Drilling & Pump Company, Inc. and is \$137,913 under the Engineer's Estimate. Roadrunner Drilling & Pump Company, Inc. is experienced in this type of construction and met the experience requirements.

A contractor must execute a release of claims (Section 00 65 23) before final payment but may except any unresolved claims from the release. The requested action authorizes Sonoma Water's General Manager to approve the release unless the contractor lists unresolved claims. In that case, County Counsel must review Section 00 65 23 prior to General Manager approval.

Section 00 67 00 (Escrow Bid Documents) of the Project Manual requires that the contractor submit bid preparation documents into an escrow account at a mutually agreeable institution. The documents would be available later for review by Sonoma Water and contractor in case of a dispute. Sonoma Water staff has determined that this procedure is unnecessary for this Project and, after evaluation of the documents, Sonoma Water staff finds nothing out of the ordinary, and recommends that the Board authorize the General Manager of Sonoma Water to waive this requirement.

Construction on the Project is scheduled to begin approximately September 18, 2023, with an estimated completion date of December 16, 2023.

The alternative would be to continue to use the existing Occidental Road Well #2, which is of poor construction and water quality, would not allow use of ASR, would eliminate the benefits of winter water storage, limit drought resiliency efforts, and put current and future grant funds at risk.

**Strategic Plan:**

N/A

**Sonoma Water Strategic Plan Alignment:**

Water Supply and Transmission System, Goal 2: Maintain and improve the reliability of the Water Transmission System.

The Project improves the Water Transmission System's ability to continue to resiliently supply water to over 600,000 residents in Marin and Sonoma counties.

**Racial Equity:**

**Was this item identified as an opportunity to apply the Racial Equity Toolkit?**

No

**Prior Board Actions:**

02-07-2023: Receive Report and Make Findings that there is no longer a need to continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

01-24-2023: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

01-10-2023: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

12-06-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

11-14-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

11-01-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

10-18-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

09-27-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in

response to drought conditions; Ratified Emergency Contracts made by the General Manager of the Sonoma County Water Agency pursuant to Resolution #06-0649 and Public Contract Code Section 22050.

09-13-2022: Receive Report and Make Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

08-30-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

08-02-2022: Received Report and Make Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions

07-12-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

06-13-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

05-17-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions; Authorized the General Manager for Sonoma Water to expend up to \$6,000,000 (additional \$2,400,000) to procure necessary services and material supplies to mitigate the emergency drought conditions; Adopted a Resolution authorizing adjustments to the Board Adopted Budget for FY 2021/2022 for the Water Transmission Common Facilities Fund in the amount of \$2,400,000.

05-03-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

04-19-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

04-05-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions; Authorized the General Manager for Sonoma Water to expend up to \$3,600,000 (additional \$600,000) to procure necessary services and material supplies to mitigate the emergency drought conditions; Adopted a Resolution authorizing adjustments to the Board Adopted Budget for FY 2021/2022 for the Water Transmission Common Facilities Fund in the amount of \$600,000.

03-15-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work

Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

03-01-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions.

02-08-2022: Received Report and Made Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions; Authorized the General Manager for Sonoma Water to execute cooperative agreement(s) with City of Santa Rosa to receive and dispose of water transferred from Sonoma Water's Santa Rosa Plain wells.

01-25-2022: Received Report and Make Findings that there is an ongoing need to Continue Emergency Work Without Competitive Bidding to Protect Health, Property and Essential Public Services in response to drought conditions; Authorized the General Manager for Sonoma Water to expend up to \$3,000,000 (additional \$1,500,000) to procure necessary services and material supplies; Adopted a Resolution authorizing adjustments to the Board Adopted Budget for FY 2021/2022 in the amount of \$1,500,000.

01-04-2022: Emergency Work on Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project in Response to Drought Conditions

12-07-2021: Emergency Work on Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project in Response to Drought Conditions

11-16-2021: Emergency Work on Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project in Response to Drought Conditions

11-02-2021: Emergency Work on Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project in Response to Drought Conditions; Authorized the General Manager for Sonoma Water to expend up to \$1,500,000 (additional \$750,000) to procure necessary services and material supplies to mitigate the emergency drought situations; Adopted a resolution authorizing the General Manager or designee to apply, accept, and execute grant agreements with the California Department of Water Resources for the Santa Rosa Plain Water Supply Resiliency Project and the Russian River Watershed Water Supply Resiliency Project

10-19-2021: Receive Report and Make Findings to Continue Emergency Work in Response to Drought Conditions

09-28-2021: Receive Report and Make Findings to Continue Emergency Work in Response to Drought Conditions

09-14-2021: Receive Report and Make Findings to Continue Emergency Work in Response to Drought Conditions

08-31-2021: Receive Report and Make Findings to Continue Emergency Work in Response to Drought Conditions

08-17-2021: Receive Report and Make Findings to Continue Emergency Work in Response to Drought Conditions and Take Actions Required by State Water Board Emergency Regulations for the

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Russian River Watershed

07-13-2021: Receive Report and Make Findings to Continue Emergency Work in Response to Drought Conditions

06-18-2021: Approved Emergency Drought Response Activities

06-18-2021: Resolution Declaring a Need to Perform Emergency Work in Response to Drought Conditions.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>FY 23-24 Adopted</b>	<b>FY24-25 Projected</b>	<b>FY 25-26 Projected</b>
Budgeted Expenses	\$1,316,527		
Additional Appropriation Requested			
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$1,316,527</b>		
<b>Funding Sources</b>			
General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal	\$1,316,527		
Fees/Other			
Use of Fund Balance			
Contingencies			
<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>\$1,316,527</b>		

**Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:**

Budgeted amount of \$1,316,527 is available from FY 2023/2024 appropriations for the Common Facilities fund. ☐

Offsetting revenue in the amount of \$1,316,527 will come from the State of California (Department of Water Resources), Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant, from the Budget Act of 2021 (Stats. 2021, ch. 240, section 80).

<b>Staffing Impacts:</b>			
<b>Position Title (Payroll Classification)</b>	<b>Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)</b>	<b>Additions (Number)</b>	<b>Deletions (Number)</b>

**Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):**

None

**Attachments:**

None

**Related Items "On File" with the Clerk of the Board:**

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Project Manual with Drawings