

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
FROM: RICHARD GIORDANELLA, WASTEWATER MAINTENANCE  
SUPERINTENDENT  
BRANDALYN TRAMMEL, PURCHASING AGENT  
SUBJECT: WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BID AND SOLE SOURCE AWARD  
TO REMOTE SOLUTIONS LLC. SAFE-T-RACK

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water and the Finance Department that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, authorize a Sole Source award and issuance of a purchase order to Remote Solutions LLC, 2475 North Jackrabbit Ave. Tucson, AZ 85745 for the purchase of the Safe-T-Rack system and tooling in an amount not to exceed \$140,000.00 with \$4,280.71 for contingency.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Santa Rosa Water recommends procuring a portable remote racking system with the ability to support all the electrical equipment found throughout the Regional System. Remote Solutions LLC offers tooling and equipment for portable remote racking, un-racking, and close functions essential for removing, inspecting, testing, and re-installing main electrical feeder power breakers. The Safe-T-Rack System (System) by Remote Solutions LLC is compatible with all makes of breakers throughout the Regional System.

The System is the only known portable racking system that allows a remote function that is compatible with multiple manufacturers' electrical breakers. The System is designed to be installed and safely operated by a single technician and can be remotely operated 50 to 150 feet away from the work location, well beyond arc flash zones. This remote function ultimately allows work to be done with a very high degree of worker safety. The current method of racking breakers requires electrical staff to rely on a range of personal protective equipment to provide protection while working within the arc flash zone of the equipment.

## BACKGROUND

The Santa Rosa Water Department operates and maintains approximately 84 main feeder breakers found throughout the Regional System, ranging from 480 to 12,000 volts. The main feeder breakers distribute power throughout the Regional electrical network and are essential for the continuous operation of the Regional wastewater and water reuse systems.

Maintenance of the electrical systems includes removal, cleaning, inspection, and evaluation of the main feeder circuit breakers, which inherently includes racking the main power feeder breakers on and off the main buss. Currently, Electrical Technicians perform these tasks using outdated tooling, placing them in potentially hazardous arc flash zones which necessitate the use of a range of personal protective equipment. Due to different eras of construction, Santa Rosa Water's current electrical system consists of multiple manufacturers and equipment designs.

Due to the range of manufacturers of electrical equipment in the electrical distribution network of the Regional System and the lack of any known equivalent to the Safe-T-Rack System, in addition to the Water Department's efforts to continuously improve safety within the Department, Santa Rosa Water recommends waiving the competitive bidding process and awarding a Sole Source contract to Remote Solutions, LLC for the System.

## PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

Not Applicable.

## ANALYSIS

After conducting comprehensive market research, staff have determined that Remote Solutions LLC is the only manufacturer of equipment that offers a complete line of remote tooling and equipment needed to support the uniqueness and complexity of the Regional System's electrical distribution system.

This is a goods-only purchase. All elements of the installation that have been deemed to be Public Works will be performed by City staff.

## FISCAL IMPACT

This procurement will be funded by Regional Operations and Maintenance JL Key 86319, from existing appropriations.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This project has been reviewed in accordance with the California Environmental Quality

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Act (CEQA) and is categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Existing Facilities, as the approval of the award and issuance of a purchase order will facilitate minor alteration of an existing public facility involving no expansion of existing use.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Quote

PRESENTER

Richard Giordanella, Wastewater Maintenance Superintendent  
Jennifer Myles, Senior Buyer