

Waiver of Competitive Bidding Process and Sole Source of Professional Service Agreements for the Subcontracting of Laboratory Services

BPU Items 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4

December 5, 2024
Board of Public Utilities

Robert C. Wilson, Laboratory Supervisor



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Laguna Environmental Laboratory (LEL)

- LEL was established in 1968 with primary function of physical and chemical measurements of wastewater
- Expansion to add a broader scope of analytical testing in 2000
- Staffing includes laboratory aides, laboratory analysts, a programmer, and management for a total of 14 people
- Staff processed 11k Samples for a total of 32k analytes in FY 23/24

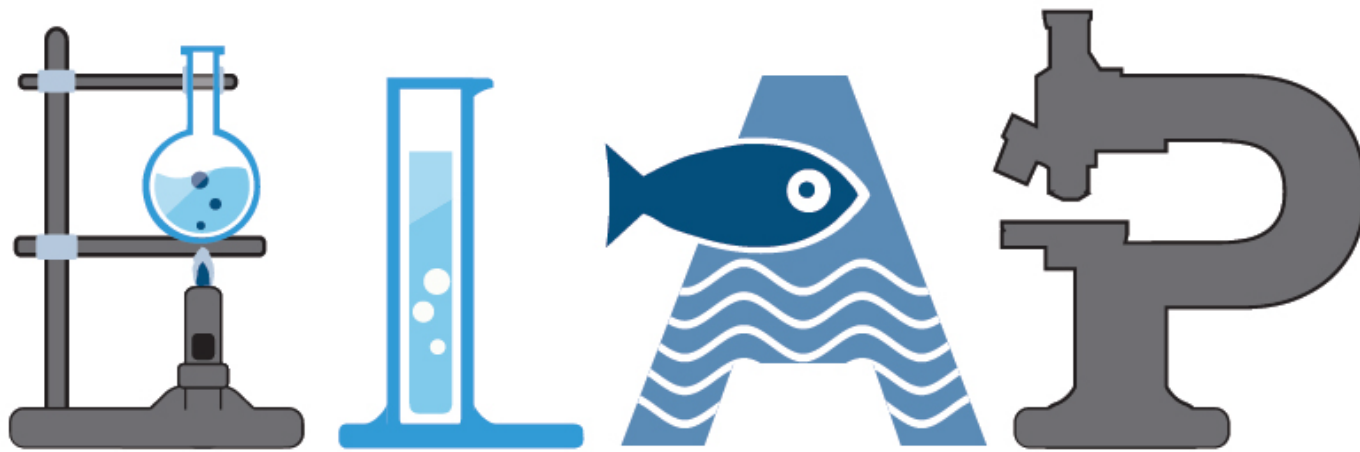
Customer Service

- Analyze and upload data for drinking water, wastewater, and biosolids reporting
- Work with clients to provide sample assistance and bottle kits
- Support compliance with Contaminants of Emerging Concerns (CECs)
 - PFAS
 - Microplastics
 - Lithium



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Scope of Services through ELAP

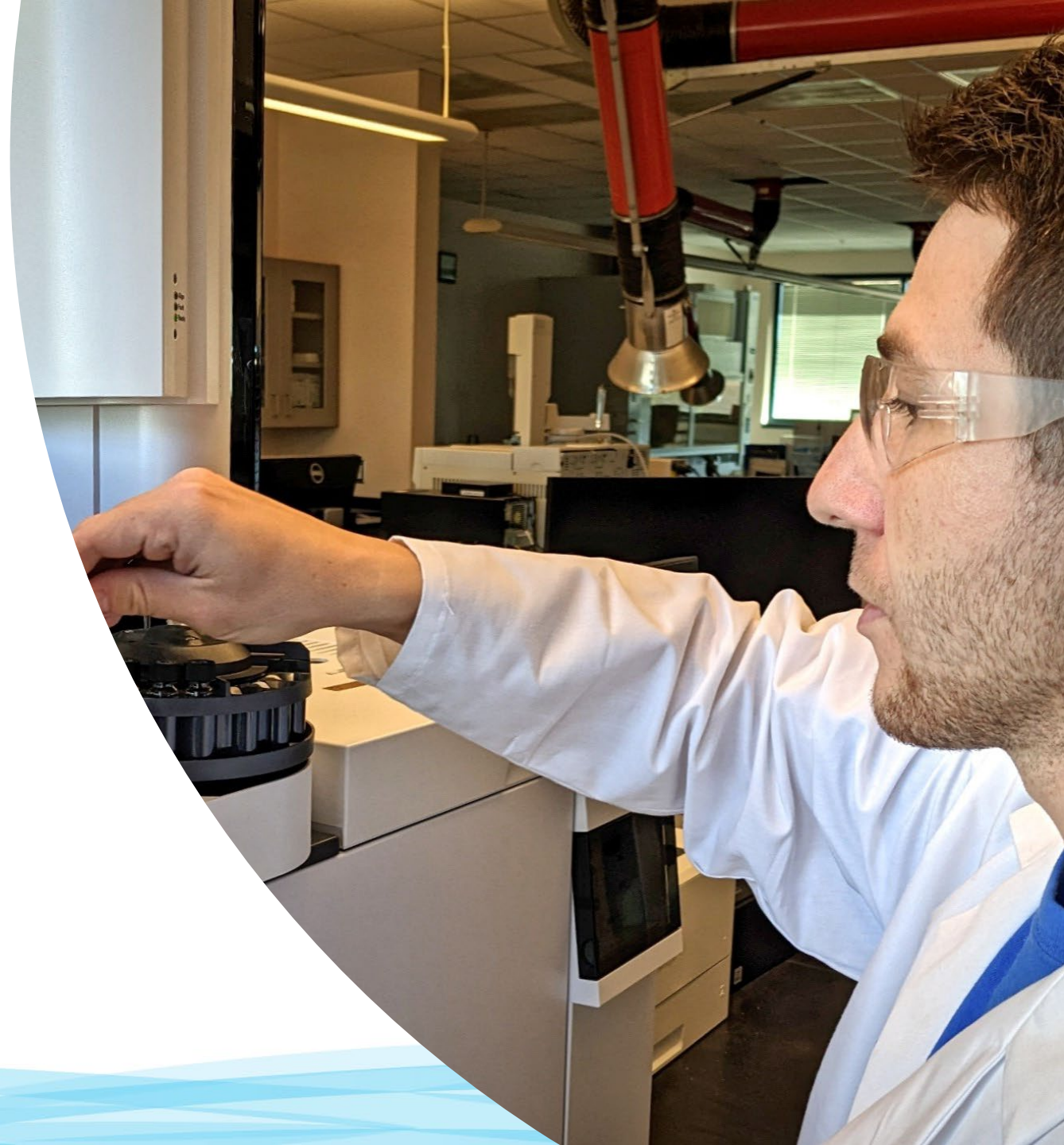


Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

- Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP)
 - Accreditation body for environmental laboratories in California
- Establishes Scope of Services for 346 analytes.

Additional Needs

- Some analytes are beyond the Scope of Services due to instrumentation limitations at the LEL. These include but are not limited to:
 - Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
 - Acute and Chronic Toxicity
 - Dioxin
 - Hexavalent Chromium
- Samples collected by Police and Fire need procedures beyond the scope provided by the LEL.





Equipment/Staffing Constraints

- Periodically, unexpected surges in sample volumes, staffing issues, or contamination/equipment failure may require temporary sub-contracting of samples to third party laboratories.
 - Tubbs and Glass Fires
 - Recent Retirements



Subcontract Environmental Laboratories

- By collaborating with other laboratories, the LEL can handle higher volumes of samples or projects, especially during peak times, without the need to invest in additional infrastructure or staffing
- Contracting with other laboratories helps reduce operational risks by ensuring backup support in case of equipment failure, thereby maintaining consistent service quality and reliability

Enthalpy Analytical



- Specialized commercial environmental analytical chemistry lab with a focus on emerging contaminants including PFAS.
- National network of accredited environmental laboratories with a local laboratory located in El Dorado Hills.
- Accreditation thorough ELAP, NELAC, DOD and ISO-17025:2017.
- Adheres to methods as established by the US EPA.

Recommendation

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, waive competitive bidding and authorize the award of a sole source Professional Services Agreement with Enthalpy Analytical for analytical services in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.



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Questions

Item 8.3 – Waiver of Competitive Bidding Process and Sole Source of Professional Services Agreement with Vitisystems, Inc. DBA Caltest Analytical Laboratory for Analytical Services



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Caltest Analytical Laboratory



- Specialized commercial environmental analytical chemistry lab focusing on the analyses of regulated pollutants at low levels in water and wastewater.
- Established in Napa California in 1974.
- Accreditation in California through ELAP and nationally through the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.
- Adheres to methods as established by the US EPA and Standard Methods of the Examination of Water and Wastewater.

Recommendation

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, waive competitive bidding and authorize the award of a sole source Professional Services Agreement with Vitisystems, Inc. DBA Caltest Analytical Laboratory for analytical services in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.



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Item 8.4 – Waiver of Competitive Bidding Process and Sole Source of Professional Services Agreement with Alpha Analytical Laboratory, Inc. for Analytical Services



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Alpha Analytical Laboratory



- Environmental analytical chemistry lab with analytical laboratory locations throughout California including Ukiah and Petaluma.
- Established in 1975.
- Accreditation in California through ELAP.
- Adheres to methods as established by the US EPA and Standard Methods of the Examination of Water and Wastewater.

Recommendation

It is recommended by the Santa Rosa Water that the Board of Public Utilities, by motion, waive competitive bidding and authorize the award of a sole source Professional Services Agreement with Alpha Analytical Laboratories for analytical services in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.



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