



**NAPA-VALLEJO WASTE
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

Agenda Date: 9/13/2012

Agenda Placement: 7C

Napa-Vallejo Waste Management Authority Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Luthy, Richard - Executive Director
Napa-Vallejo Waste Management Authority

REPORT BY: Richard Luthy, Executive Director, Napa-Vallejo Waste Management - 707-299-1314

SUBJECT: Approval of Agreements 2012-09 and 2012-10 (Shaw Environmental Inc and City of Am Can MOA) for technical evaluation of microturbines

RECOMMENDATION

AGREEMENTS 2012-09 and 2012-10

REQUESTED ACTION: Discussion and possible adoption of the following actions, related to a technical review of the microturbine project at the American Canyon Sanitary Landfill (ACSL):

1. Approval and authorization for the Chair to sign Agreement 2012-09 between Shaw Environmental Inc., the City of American Canyon and the Authority, in an amount not to exceed \$16,000, to assess the condition and needs of the landfill gas to energy microturbine compressor skid and power plant; and
2. Approval and authorization for the Vice-Chair to sign Memorandum of Agreement 2012-10 (MOA) between the Authority and the City of American Canyon, to share equally in the cost of the Shaw microturbine system evaluation, in an amount not to exceed \$8,000 each, for a maximum total of \$16,000.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of American Canyon has proposed a joint project with NVWMA for a technical evaluation of the Microturbine Project at the American Canyon Sanitary Landfill (ACSL). The intent of the project is to determine the cost and feasibility of repairing and reactivating the system. Shaw Environmental, the firm that currently contracts with NVWMA for landfill monitoring services, has expertise in landfill gas power generating systems and is uniquely qualified to perform the technical evaluation. The proposed Agreement with Shaw, and the Memorandum of Agreement with the City of American Canyon, would set a maximum contract amount of \$16,000, with the City and NVWMA each agreeing to be responsible for paying 50 percent of the project costs. NVWMA's maximum financial commitment would be limited to \$8,000. Sufficient funds are available in the Final FY 2013 ACSL subdivision budget.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Microturbine Project at the American Canyon Sanitary landfill was designed to use excess landfill gas to generate electricity for the City of American Canyon Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project was completed in 2008, but operated for only a very short time before experiencing repeated failures of the the gas compressor, which the Authority was unable to resolve. The system has been idle for several years, and the City of American Canyon has expressed interest in determining if the project can be reactivated. To that end, the City has offered to participate with the Authority in the funding of an engineering study to determine the cost and feasibility of restoring the system to operational status. Shaw Environmental, a firm that currently does work for the Authority and has specialized expertise in landfill gas systems, has proposed to complete an initial evaluation of the system at a cost not to exceed \$16,000. The proposed evaluation would look at availability of excess gas, compressor system design and current condition of the microturbines and would provide estimates of costs to reactivate the systems. In order to keep costs down, the initial study would not include inspection of the gas line that runs from the landfill to the wastewater plant. If results of the initial study are promising, the City and Authority could consider allocating additional funds for inspection of the pipeline.

The proposed three-party agreement with Shaw and the Memorandum of Agreement between the City and the Authority would obligate the City and Authority to each pay fifty percent (50%) of the study costs. The maximum obligation of the Authority would therefore be \$8,000. There are sufficient funds available in the Final FY 2013 ACSL subdivision budget.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

Executive Director: Approve

Reviewed By: Martha Burdick