Agenda Item 716

TESTIMONY

REGULAR AGENDA

BULL RUN SUPPLY TREATMENT CONTRACTS

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

	NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE	Email
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Date 05-19-10

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Testimony of Floy Jones Re: Council Agenda Item 716, \$12 million in UV Radiation consultant contracts May 19, 2010

Today Portland City Council is considering awarding \$12 million in consultant contracts related to designing a Bull Run UV Radiation plant leading to further water bill increases. While contracts were expected for this unnecessary work, the process used by the Portland Water Bureau to select these consultants is tainted. Information obtained via FOIA requests calls into question the integrity of comments made by Commissioner Leonard last summer as to the basis for this expensive decision.

The Portland Water Bureau has devised a strategy for awarding consultant contracts to preferred consultants avoiding public transparency while creating an unfair advantage for insider consulting firms. Utilizing Flexible Service contracts (on-call professional service contracts) the Portland Water Bureau has given Bull Run Supply Water Treatment "pre design" work to their preferred engineering consultants, i.e CH2M Hill, thereby giving those consultants an insider advantage for larger design contracts. While Flexible Service contracts are brought to Council for approval, the specific work performed under those contracts does not require additional review or authorization by Council, thus avoiding public transparency.

On July 29, 2009 during a Council session Water Bureau Commissioner Randy Leonard stated that he would not be influenced by consultants with regard to Bull Run decisions specifically naming CH2M Hill and MWH, advising that "he directed the water bureau to use no consultants in making recommendations to me and this Council as to what is in the interest of water drinkers". Through a subsequent FOIA request, Friends of the Reservoirs learned that CH2M HIII was already working on a Bull Run UV Radiation treatment plant project at that time. CH2M Hill is a contributor to the Portland Water Bureau's "UV Basis For Design Report" (completed in 2009) which will influence Council decisions. CH2M Hill is also involved in Portland 's LT2 alternative strategy, the source water variance process. A clear conflict of interest exists.

CH2M Hill has been working on a Bull Run UV Radiation treatment plant "Basis of Design Report" under a 2007 \$750,000 PWB Flexible Service contract (# 37433). When this contract was brought before Council on June 6, 2007 there was no public disclosure of any work to be performed related to controversial projects such as design of an additional Bull Run treatment plant. The authorizing ordinance no. 181022 states... "these contracts will support various projects such as.... water main improvements along the transit mall and other main replacements...."

Today the PWB is asking you to award CH2M Hill a \$3,669,790 Bull Run Supply Water Treatment design contract, item 716. The Friends of the Reservoirs informed City Council in July 2009 of the long inappropriate string of cozy consultant contracts awarded to the corporate home of Joe Glicker (since 1995).

Joe Glicker is a former Portland Water Bureau official previously with Montgomery, Watson, Harza Global (MWH), currently VP at CH2M Hill. Glicker is well known to Bull Run advocates as the PWB's favorite cozy consultant. Since Glicker changed employ to CH2M Hill in 2006, major capital improvement design contracts have followed him to CH2M Hill, i.e. the Sandy River Crossing Tunnel, Powell Butte II buried tank, large Flexible Service contract, and now the UV Radiation Treatment plant design. As regional president of MWH (1995-2006) Glicker was awarded many lucrative contracts related to construction of a Bull Run treatment plant and burying in town storage reservoirs. Glicker was hired under a five-year PWB contract (1997-2003) to assist in negotiating an Environmental Protection Agency regulation, the LT2 rule. As applied to Portland, the rule benefits Glicker and his corporate associates.

In support of CH2M Hill's successful bid for the \$8.5 million Powell Butte II tank (PB II) design contract, CH2MHill referenced their inside track with the PWB. CH2M Hill stated that they had been working on the PWB's UV Radiation treatment plant design project. Just two corporations submitted proposals for that \$8.5 Powell Butte II buried tank contract. MWH, Black and Veatch and Tetra Tech submitted a proposal under the name Tetra Tech. MWH and Black and Veatch are well known engineering firms, two of the PWB's three favored consultants. The name Tetra Tech, however, is not familiar to Water Bureau watchdogs.

CH2M Hill has made an effort to influence Portland City Council with regard to a Bull Run treatment plant design. CH2MHill was present when Commissioner Leonard was on tour of Seattle's UV treatment plant in fall '07. Commissioner Leonard acknowledged that their presence was inappropriate.

There is much controversy surrounding plans for our Bull Run water as relates to unnecessary construction of an additional Bull Run treatment plant and burying Portland 's open reservoirs. The undue influence and improper relationship between the Portland Water Bureau and cozy consultants is no small issue in this regard.

109 CHZINHELL PBIL proposal (8.5 million tentrat) neference BUII Run UV Design 183837



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source Water Sampling Results from sampling at the source water intake in the Bull Run watershed.

Results <u>Potential "Hot Spot" Sampling</u> <u>Results</u> Results from sampling from the

Results from sampling from the potential "hot spots" in the Bull Run watershed.

On this page you will find results from the source water intake sampling for Cryptosporidium. This page will be updated monthly. Validated results are available approximately 30 days after the samples are collected. If any oocysts are detected in the source water, they will be genotyped for further analysis.

As of May 10, 2010, the Portland Water Bureau has received validated laboratory source water results through April 28, 2010.

3953.8 liters have been analyzed with O Cryptosporidium oocysts detected.

Source Water Intake Sampling Results

Month	Volume Sampled (L)	Oocysts
December 2009	450.6	0
January 2010	951	0
February 2010	800.6	0
March 2010	950.7	0
April	800.9	
Total	3953.8	0

If any *Cryptosporidium* is detected during the

Headworks sampling program, Portland will attempt to determine the species of *Cryptosporidium* by having a laboratory conduct tests on the genetic material that is collected. This additional analysis may provide evidence about the types and infectivity of *Cryptosporidium*, if any, in Bull Run water. Not all types of *Cryptosporidium* are infectious to humans. Although this type of analysis does not always yield conclusive results, the Water Bureau believes this to be a critical aspect of its sampling program and information that may help support a request for a treatment variance.

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