



REVISED

ITEM NO.  
6.3

# BOARD MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 26, 2019  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Keith Abercrombie *KA*  
 Chief Operating Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Approve Bidding and Purchasing of Treatment Vessels and a Final Design Work Authorization for Kennedy Jenks Consultants for Q2 Well Perchlorate Treatment

## SUMMARY

Perchlorate was first identified as a contaminant in the local groundwater supply for the Santa Clarita Valley in 1997. Since then, multiple wells have had positive detections for the contaminant, treatment has been installed, and a settlement agreement has been reached with the Whittaker Bermite Corporation. Currently SCV Water is treating for the removal of perchlorate in two (2) Saugus Formation groundwater wells (Saugus 1 and Saugus 2) and in the process of permitting treatment of a third Saugus Formation well V201. A fourth Alluvial well (Q2) had treatment installed in 2005. However, after several years of no detectable levels of perchlorate in Q2, treatment was removed. In May 2019, Q2 once again had positive detections of perchlorate and staff is working to reinstall treatment to remove perchlorate from this well.

In 2005, Valencia Water Company (VWC) well Q2 had positive detections above the maximum contaminant level of 6 micrograms per liter (6 ug/L) for perchlorate. Perchlorate resin ion exchange (IX) treatment was installed and the well was put back into service in October 2005. Subsequently, the well was tested weekly for more than two years and all detections in the raw water were below the detection limit for reporting (DLR) of 4 ug/L. VWC received approval from California Department of Public Health (now referred to as Division of Drinking Water – DDW) to remove treatment and continue operating Q2 as a potable supply well. The well was placed on a monthly sampling schedule and then reduced to a quarterly sampling schedule.

In May 2019, Q2 tested positive for perchlorate at a value of 6 ug/L. Though this positive (and confirmed) detection did not exceed the MCL, the well was taken out of service and the sampling schedule was increased to monthly. Subsequent detections during the months of June – September 2019, yielded the following results.

Month (2019)	Detections (ug/L)
May	6
June	6
July	9
August	13
September	9

## DISCUSSION

Based on these relatively consistent results, with the last three (3) months exceeding the MCL of 6 ug/L, staff is recommending IX perchlorate removal treatment be restored at Q2. Staff is

working on specifications and preliminary design to provide IX perchlorate treatment. Staff is also recommending approval of a work authorization for Kennedy Jenks Consultants to provide final design services for the treatment improvements.

**CEQA DETERMINATION**

The proposed actions are categorically exempt under the provisions of CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed actions include 1) ordering two new vessels (HP1220HF Ion Exchange Vessels or similar), 2) installing the vessels at the previous location of the Q-2 vessels (the SPTF), and 3) installing some minor piping at the Q-2 wellhead to connect the well to the vessels.

This proposed action qualifies for an exemption under Class 1 Existing Facilities because it is a minor alteration of an existing public facility and it concerns proposed new mechanical equipment involving negligible or no expansion of use, i.e. no additional extraction of water, beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency’s determination. It also qualifies for an exemption under Class 3 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, because the project construction is limited to construction within the existing footprint of the fenced facility. None of the exceptions listed in Section 15300.2 of the CEQA Guidelines would apply to the proposed action.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The project is broken into three (3) main phases for bidding and budgeting. The purpose of this approach is to accelerate the ordering and delivery of the long lead time items (Treatment Vessels - approximately 20 weeks) The proposed timetable with engineering budgetary estimates is shown below.

Item	Start Date	End Date	Estimate
Order Vessels	October 2019	March 2020	\$440,000
Construction	March 2020	June 2020	\$260,000
Filter Media	June 2020	June 2020	\$330,000
Final Design	October 2019	March 2020	<del>\$100,000</del> \$115,000

In order to meet the aggressive timeline of having treatment in place by summer 2020, staff is recommending the General Manager be authorized to purchase treatment vessels pursuant to our normal bidding practices in an amount not exceeding the engineering estimate of \$440,000. Engineering specifications and preliminary design will be completed, and a Request for Proposals will be prepared for bidding purposes. The final design work would be performed on a time and expense basis with a design budget of ~~\$100,000~~ \$115,000. It is anticipated that costs for this project will be reimbursed by Whittaker Corporation as per the Perchlorate Settlement Agreement. In the interim, funds from the Valencia Water Division (VWD) Reserves will be utilized.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Directors approve the purchasing of treatment vessels for perchlorate treatment at well Q2 for a cost not exceeding the engineering estimate of \$440,000, authorize the General Manager to execute a work authorization for a not-to-exceed amount of ~~\$100,000~~

\$115,000 for Kennedy Jenks Consultants to provide final design services, and file a Notice of Exemption for the proposed action.

Attachment

MGS

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SCV WATER AGENCY  
Q2 Well-Perchlorate Treatment System



Saugus Perchlorate Treatment Facility

Rio Vista Intake Pump Station

Q2 Treatment Vessels

Well Q2

SANTA CLARA RIVER

