



REPORT

To: Electoral Area Directors Committee

Report Number: ENV-EADC-046

From: Environmental Services

Date: July 24, 2025

Subject: Rolla Sewer Outfall Geotechnical Hazard Assessment

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Electoral Area Directors Committee recommend that the Regional Board authorize an increase of \$81,727 in the total contract value for McElhanney Ltd., RFP 10-2021 from \$316,232 to \$397,959, for changes in the contract scope related to Geotechnical Hazard Assessment and engineering oversight for the Rolla Sewer Outfall, and that the contract be extended until July 31, 2026; further, that the Chair and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to sign the contract amendment on behalf of the Peace River Regional District.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

On May 4, 2024, the Regional Board passed the following resolution:

MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED,

That the Regional Board authorize a \$95,623 increase in the total contract value for McElhanney Ltd., RFP 10-2021 "Rolla Sewer Treatment Upgrades" from \$220,609 to \$316,232, and extend the contract term to December 31, 2024 to complete necessary changes in the contract scope related to Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy's requirements under the Municipal Wastewater Regulations and Information Request Table for completion of the existing compliance documentation by Qualified Professionals, for Rolla Sewer; further, that the Chair and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to sign the contract amendment on behalf of the Peace River Regional District.

The Rolla Sewer System has recently experienced damage to outfall equipment, suspected to be caused by unknown geotechnical hazards. Initial observations suggest that ground movement or instability in the area may be causing the shifting or displacement of infrastructure components, leading to equipment misalignment and/or failure. At this stage, the specific nature and extent of the subsurface issues are unclear. Further investigation will be required to assess soil conditions, identify potential risks (e.g., erosion, subsidence, or groundwater impacts), and determine appropriate mitigation measures to protect the integrity of the sewer system.

McElhanney was procured in 2021 to support Rolla Sewer System upgrades, including Municipal Wastewater Regulation compliance, permit registration, and design. As the outfall was part of these upgrades and designed by McElhanney, staff recommends a contract increase as a continuation of the original scope. Staff is coordinating with McElhanney Ltd. to establish cost estimates to evaluate the situation and develop a response plan. Updates will be provided as more information becomes

available, however, to ensure that enough funds are available to action any necessary works, a contract increase is required.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Electoral Area Directors Committee provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

- ☒ Asset and Infrastructure Management

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

Costs for the Geotechnical Hazards Assessment will be included in the capital budget for Function 607 – Rolla Sewer and covered using carry-forward Community Gas Works Funds. The remaining budget on the McElhaney Ltd. contract is \$4,782.89. Additional funding is required to cover a necessary contract increase of \$81,727 for the Geotechnical Hazards Assessment and engineering oversight of potential mitigation measures. Mitigation measures are unknown at this time, and future funding approval will come forward once mitigation measures are determined.

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

Currently, access to the outfall and adjacent properties is restricted to private access only. No public notification is currently deemed necessary.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

None at this time.