

**FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
SOLE SOURCE REQUEST**

TO: Timothy L. Bryant, CEO/General Manager

DATE: September 13, 2024

FROM: Tracy Dowd, Water/Wastewater Facility Manager

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PWC’s Water Resources Department seeks approval to purchase specific equipment pursuant to a sole source exception to the competitive bidding requirements. North Carolina law allows an exception from the competitive bidding requirements for “Purchases of apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment when: (i) performance or price competition for a product are not available; (ii) a needed product is available from only one source of supply; or (iii) standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration.” NCGS §143-129(e)(6). Such an exception is only available in this instance if the Commission approves the purchase.

The sole source request is specifically to provide and install a (1) one new 24” Cla-Val pump control valve manufactured by Cla-Val and distributed by Charles R. Underwood, Inc. A quote for \$123,120.00 for the pump control valve, stainless steel trim, EDPM diaphragm, and disc, epoxy coated ID and OD, speed control, flow reversal, (2) solenoid valves, Victaulic x flange with tap, and fabricated pipe support for the Raw Water Pump # 3. The Procurement Department and Water/Waste Water Facility Department has knowledge of the products and market, and support this request based on the overriding consideration of standardization and compatibility with the equipment at the Water Resources Department located at the PO Hoffer Water Treatment Plant. It is in the best interest of PWC to standardize the equipment for the following reasons:

- Thirteen (13) of Seventeen (17) (76%) of our High Service Pump control valves have been converted to Cla-Val brand when the previous valves reached the end of their service life.
- The Cla-Val control valves provide the required means to bring our High Service water delivery pumps on and offline without injecting water hammer or significant changes in system pressure.
- PWC has been implementing the Cla-Val control valves into our pumping systems for approximately 12 years.
- Standardization decreases staff learning curves by maintaining the current equipment, maintenance, and operating standards.
- Standardization reduces operating and maintenance costs by reducing the inventory of replacement parts.

Cla-Val has provided email establishing that Charles R. Underwood is the exclusive supplier of the required equipment in North Carolina. The department has provided a letter to further justify this sole source request. Therefore, the Water Resources Department seeks approval to purchase and install new 24" Cla-Val pump control valve from Charles R. Underwood without the need for competitive bidding.