

**FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
SOLE SOURCE REQUEST**

TO: Timothy L. Bryant, CEO/General Manager

DATE: August 25, 2025

FROM: Jason Green, Water Treatment Facilities Manager

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Re: Approval of a Sole Source Purchase – 24” Cla-Val Pump Control Valve for Raw Water Pump #4 at the P.O. Hoffer Water Treatment Plant.

North Carolina General Statute §143-129(e)(6) allows an exception from competitive bidding requirements when performance or price competition is not available, when a needed product is available from only one source of supply, or when standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration. The Water Resources Department is requesting approval under the standardization and compatibility provision.

This request is specifically for the purchase and installation of one 24-inch Cla-Val pump control valve for Raw Water Pump #4 at the P.O. Hoffer Water Treatment Plant. The proposed equipment includes stainless steel trim, an EPDM diaphragm and disc, epoxy coating inside and out, speed control and flow reversal features, two solenoid valves, a Victaulic by flange with tap, and a fabricated pipe support. The total cost of this purchase and installation, as quoted by Charles R. Underwood, Inc., is \$136,253.00.

Cla-Val, the manufacturer, has provided written confirmation that Charles R. Underwood, Inc. is the exclusive distributor of its products in North Carolina. Both the Procurement Department and the Water/Wastewater Facilities Department have reviewed this request and recommend approval.

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The justification for sole source approval is based on the longstanding standardization of Cla-Val equipment at the P.O. Hoffer Water Treatment Plant and across PWC facilities. Fourteen of the seventeen High Service Pump control valves currently in service have been upgraded to Cla-Val, representing 82 percent of the total. PWC has been implementing Cla-Val products for more than 12 years and has established consistent operating, maintenance, and training practices around this equipment.

Cla-Val control valves have proven to be dependable in allowing High Service pumps to come on and offline without creating water hammer or sudden changes in system pressure. Maintaining this standard reduces staff training requirements, minimizes the need to stock multiple types of replacement parts, and lowers overall operating and maintenance costs. For these reasons, standardization and compatibility are considered the overriding considerations under the statute.

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PWC Staff recommend that the Commission approve the sole source purchase and installation of one 24-inch Cla-Val pump control valve for Raw Water Pump #4 at the P.O. Hoffer Water Treatment Plant from Charles R. Underwood, Inc., the exclusive authorized distributor in North Carolina, in the amount of \$136,253.00.

**FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION  
SOLE SOURCE REQUEST**

TO: Timothy L. Bryant, CEO/General Manager

DATE: August 20, 2025

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 \$136,253.00 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 # 4. The Procurement Department and Water/Wastewater 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.