

BOARD MEETING DATE: February 2, 2024

AGENDA NO. 4

PROPOSAL: Recognize Revenue, Appropriate Funds, Issue Solicitations and Purchase Orders for Air Monitoring Equipment

SYNOPSIS: South Coast AQMD is expected to receive grant funds up to \$800,000 from U.S. EPA for the FY 2024-25 (32nd Year) PAMS Program. This action is to recognize revenue and appropriate funds for the PAMS Program in the Monitoring and Analysis FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 Budgets. These actions are also to recognize revenue upon receipt, and appropriate \$73,000 for the PM2.5 Program in the Monitoring and Analysis FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 Budgets and to issue solicitations and execute purchase orders for air monitoring equipment.

COMMITTEE: Administrative, January 12, 2024; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Recognize revenue and upon receipt of the U.S. EPA award, appropriate up to \$410,000 of the \$800,000 (\$390,000 was previously recognized into the FY 2023-24 Budget for Salaries & Employee Benefits) into the Monitoring and Analysis FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 Budgets, Services and Supplies and Capital Outlays Major Object, as set forth in Attachment 1.
2. Appropriate from the General Fund Undesignated (Unassigned) Fund Balance to the Capital Outlays, and Services & Supplies Major Object in the Monitoring and Analysis FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 Budgets an amount up to \$230,000 to ensure continuity of operations for the PAMS program until the U.S. EPA award is received.
3. Recognize revenue, upon receipt, and appropriate from the General Fund Undesignated (Unassigned) Fund Balance PM2.5 FY2022-23 funds up to \$73,000 into the Monitoring and Analysis FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 Capital Outlays Major Object (Org 47) for equipment purchases as set forth in Attachment 2;
4. Authorize the Procurement Manager, in accordance with South Coast AQMD's Procurement Policy and Procedure to issue 'Prior Bid, Last Price' or solicitation(s) as needed, and based on results, issue purchase orders for the following equipment listed in Table 1.
  - a. Up to two gas dilution systems not to exceed \$54,000;
  - b. Up to five meteorological towers not to exceed \$30,000; and
  - c. Up to two NOy analyzers not to exceed \$70,000.

5. Authorize the Procurement Manager, in accordance with South Coast AQMD's Procurement Policy and Procedure to issue sole source purchase orders for the following items as listed in Table 2.

Wayne Natri  
Executive Officer

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## **Background**

### PAMS Program

In February 1993, U.S. EPA promulgated the PAMS regulations for areas classified as serious, severe, or extreme nonattainment. These regulations require that South Coast AQMD conduct monitoring for ozone precursors with enhanced monitoring equipment at multiple sites. The PAMS Program also funds upper air and surface-based meteorological measurements at several locations. Since the onset of the PAMS Program, U.S. EPA has annually allocated Section 105 Grant funds in support of this requirement.

### PM2.5 Program

Since 1998, U.S. EPA has provided funds under Section 103 for a comprehensive PM2.5 Air Monitoring Program. To date, there are 19 ambient air monitoring stations in the South Coast Air Basin (Basin) operating 22 Federal Reference Method (FRM) PM2.5 monitors under U.S. EPA funding and 20 Federal Equivalent Method (FEM/Non-FEM) PM2.5 continuous monitors. South Coast AQMD previously received \$73,000 as part of U.S. EPA FY2022-23 funds for the purchase of air monitoring equipment.

## **Proposal**

### PAMS Program

The estimated U.S. EPA Section 105 Grant for the 32nd Year PAMS Program funding is \$800,000 based on the 31st Year PAMS Program funding levels. This action is to recognize revenue, upon receipt, and appropriate estimated funds up to the amount of \$410,000 (with the remainder of \$390,000 already included in Salaries and Employee Benefits within the FY 2023-24 Budget) into the Services and Supplies and Capital Outlays Major Object in Monitoring and Analysis' FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 Budgets. To ensure that South Coast AQMD can continue operations prior to receiving the award, staff recommends the appropriation of \$230,000 as shown in Attachment 1 from the General Fund Undesignated (Unassigned) Fund Balance to the Capital Outlays, and Services & Supplies Major Object in Monitoring and Analysis' FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 Budgets.

PM2.5 Program (Remaining Federal FY22 Balance)

U.S. EPA provided \$73,000 in Section 103 Grant funding for air monitoring equipment, which had previously been recognized and received by the Board. Equipment purchases were not completed in FY2022-23 due to a cost increase and equipment that failed acceptance testing. Funds have been approved by U.S. EPA to mitigate the cost increase and recent manufacturer production changes have resulted in the equipment passing acceptance testing. This action is to recognize revenue, upon receipt, and appropriate from the General Fund Undesignated (Unassigned) Fund Balance PM2.5 FY2022-23 funds up to \$73,000 into Monitoring and Analysis' FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 Budgets to complete the purchases as set forth in Attachment 2.

Proposed Purchases through an RFQ Process, "Prior Bid, Last Price" or Solicitation Process

*Gas Dilution Systems*

South Coast AQMD operates two dedicated PAMS sites and 27 ozone and nitrogen dioxide sites in support of the PAMS monitoring network. Periodic Quality Assurance (QA) audits of gas monitors is required to meet U.S. EPA quality assurance criteria. Gas dilution systems are necessary to provide a known concentration of gas standard required for the QA audit of air monitoring equipment. The current audit gas dilution systems no longer meet U.S. EPA Quality Control requirements. The replacement gas dilution systems meet U.S. EPA requirements as outlined in the current ozone Technical Assistance Document. The estimated cost for up to two gas dilution systems is \$54,000 and the purchase will be made by "Prior Bid, Last Price" or through a solicitation process, as needed, followed by issuance of a purchase order(s) as specified in Table 1.

*Meteorological Towers*

Meteorological towers are needed to support air monitoring sensors at new ambient monitoring locations which measure ozone. The estimated cost for up to five meteorological towers is \$30,000, and the purchase will be made through a solicitation process as needed, followed by issuance of a purchase order as specified in Table 1.

*Total Reactive Nitrogen (NOy) Analyzer*

The NOy analyzers used at South Coast AQMD's PAMS sites are more than 10 years old and are no longer supported by the manufacturer. PAMS requirements include hourly averaged NOy measurements. The estimated cost for two NOy analyzers is \$70,000, and the purchase will be made through a solicitation process as needed, followed by issuance of a purchase order as specified in Table 1.

Proposed Purchases through Sole Source

*Agilaire 8872 Data Loggers*

The data loggers used at South Coast AQMD's PAMS sites and at other air monitoring stations supporting the PAMS network are greater than 15 years old and will no longer be supported by the manufacturer beyond the most recent Windows 10 upgrade. Data loggers are used for real time reporting of air quality data to U.S. EPA and CARB and reporting AQI values to the public. The technical specifications of the data loggers are

proprietary, consistent with the existing South Coast AQMD air monitoring network, and only available from one vendor. The estimated cost for up to two data loggers is \$25,000 and the equipment will be purchased through a sole source process as specified in Table 2.

#### *EBAC DD900 Dehumidifier*

The current EBAC DD700 dehumidification unit for the PM2.5 humidity and temperature-controlled room in the laboratory is not operating within U.S. EPA specifications during humid weather conditions. Replacing the DD700 with the higher capacity DD900 dehumidifier will maintain the humidity and temperature-controlled room within U.S. EPA specifications for the PM2.5 FRM program. The estimated cost of a dehumidifier is \$19,000 (see Table 2). The purchase will be made through a sole source purchase process followed by issuance of a purchase order.

#### *Met One PM2.5 FEM Monitors*

The U.S. EPA Section 103 FY2022-23 PM2.5 Grant award includes one-time funding for the purchase of up to three Met One PM2.5 FEM monitors. The Met One PM2.5 FEM monitor is the only commercially available FEM monitor that would allow South Coast AQMD to satisfy the U.S. EPA collocation requirement, which specifies that new FEM monitors added to the network must use the same monitor/method code as those that are already in operation within the network. The cost of the monitors will not exceed \$63,000 (see Table 2).

### **Sole Source Justification**

Section VIII.B.3 of the South Coast AQMD's Procurement Policy and Procedure identifies four major provisions under which a sole source award funded in whole or in part with federal funds, may be justified. Specifically, the request for sole source awards for the Agilaire 8872 Data Loggers, EBAC DD900, and Met One PM2.5 FEM Mass Monitors are made under provision VIII.B.3.a. The items are available only from a single source. Agilaire, LLC is the only manufacturer who produces data loggers which work with their AirVision® air quality data collection software with proprietary technology. South Coast AQMD uses the Agilaire, LLC AirVision® software as the primary telemetry system for continuous measurements at all fixed air monitoring network sites. The EBAC DD900 Dehumidifier is part of a larger environmental control system that has been specifically configured for this style dehumidifier, and EBAC is the sole manufacturer of this unit. Met One, Inc. is the only manufacturer of a real-time, continuous PM2.5 FEM Mass Monitor that employs a unique "in-situ" sampling technique that would allow South Coast AQMD to satisfy U.S. EPA collocation requirements.

### **Resource Impacts**

U.S. EPA Section 105 Grant funding will support the operation of the PAMS Program including funding for Capital Outlays, Services and Supplies, and Salaries and Employee Benefits to meet the necessary objectives of the Program.

U.S. EPA Section 103 Grant funding will support the PM2.5 Monitoring Program equipment necessary to meet the objectives of the PM2.5 Monitoring Program.

**Table 1  
Proposed Purchases through an RFQ Process,  
'Prior Bid, Last Price' or Solicitation Process**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Estimated Amount</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Contracting Method</b>
Gas Dilution Systems	up to 2	\$54,000	32nd Year PAMS	'Prior Bid, Last Price' or Solicitation
Meteorological Towers	5	\$30,000	32nd Year PAMS	Solicitation
NOy Analyzers	2	\$70,000	32nd Year PAMS	Solicitation
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$154,000</b>		

**Table 2  
Proposed Purchases through Sole Source Purchase Orders**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Estimated Amount</b>	<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Contracting Method</b>
Agilaire 8872 Data Loggers	up to 2	\$25,000	32nd Year PAMS	Sole Source
EBAC DD900 Dehumidifier	1	\$19,000 <sup>1</sup>	FY 2022-23 PM2.5	Sole Source
Met One PM2.5 FEM Monitors	Up to 3	\$63,000	FY 2022-23 PM2.5	Sole Source
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$107,000</b>		

<sup>1</sup> Appropriations for a portion of this purchase (\$9,000) were authorized in the June 2023 Board letter, Agenda Item No. 3. Recommended Action 2 authorizes an additional appropriation of \$10,000 from the FY22 PM2.5 program grant remaining balance for a total amount of \$19,000 for the purchase of one EBAC DD900 Dehumidifier.

**Attachments**

1. Proposed 32nd Year PAMS Expenditures for FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25
2. Proposed PM2.5 Expenditures for FY 2023-24 (Remaining Federal FY22 Balance)

## Attachment 1

### Proposed 32nd Year PAMS Expenditures for FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25

Account Description	Account Number	Program Code	Estimated Expenditure	Initial Appropriation <sup>1</sup>
<b>Services &amp; Supplies Major Object:</b>				
Professional and Special Services	67450	47530	\$60,000	\$40,000
Demurrage Expenses	67550	47530	\$15,000	0
Maintenance of Equipment	67600	47530	\$50,000	\$5,000
Travel	67800	47530	\$5,000	0
Communications	67900	47530	\$1,000	0
Laboratory Supplies	68050	47530	\$50,000	\$5,000
Office Expense	68100	47530	\$5,000	0
Small Tools, Instruments, Equipment	68300	47530	\$40,000	\$1,000
Training/Conf/Tuition/Board	69500	47530	\$5,000	0
<b>Total Services &amp; Supplies Major Object:</b>			<b>\$231,000</b>	<b>\$51,000</b>
<b>Capital Outlay Major Object:</b>				
Gas Dilution Systems (up to 2)	77000	47530	\$54,000	\$54,000
Meteorological Towers (up to 5)	77000	47530	\$30,000	\$30,000
NOy Analyzer (up to 2)	77000	47530	\$70,000	\$70,000
Agilaire 8872 Data Loggers (up to 2)	77000	47530	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>Total Capital Outlay Major Object:</b>			<b>\$179,000</b>	<b>\$179,000</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$410,000</b>	<b>\$230,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Upon receipt of the award, the remaining balance of PAMS Program Funds will be appropriated to the Monitoring & Analysis FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 Budgets. \$390,000 was previously recognized in Salaries & Employee Benefits within the FY 2023-24 Budget.

## Attachment 2

### Proposed PM2.5 Expenditures for FY 2023-24 and/or FY 2024-25 (Remaining Federal FY22 Balance)

Account Description	Account Number	Program Code	Estimated Expenditure
<b>Capital Outlay Major Object:</b>			
EBAC DD900 Dehumidifier (1)	77000	47500	\$19,000 <sup>1</sup>
Met One PM2.5 FEM Monitors (up to 3)	77000	47500	\$63,000
<b>Total:</b>			<b>\$82,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Appropriations for a portion of this purchase (\$9,000) were authorized in the June 2023 Board letter, Agenda Item No. 3. Recommended Action 2 authorizes an additional appropriation of \$10,000 from the FY22 PM2.5 program grant remaining balance for a total amount of \$19,000 for the purchase of one EBAC DD900 Dehumidifier.