

Memorandum

Public Works Department



To: City Manager
Subject: Replacement Comminutors for the Southwest Treatment Plant
Date: March 8, 2021
Number: 2021-038

Comminutors are a type of grinder that breakdown large, stringy wastewater solids by shredding the material and are located at the beginning of the treatment process. Shredding of this material prevents problems such as clogged pumps or operational issues in the aeration basins and digesters. The three comminutors at the Southwest treatment plant have been operating 24 hours per day since the plant was built in 1975. The comminutors have been rebuilt several times since they were installed. Two of the units had to be replaced in 2020 when staff was informed by the manufacturer that the units were obsolete and parts were no longer available for them. Two of the three units had to be replaced in 2020. The third unit has now failed as well. Without this third unit, the two comminutors that are operational will not be able to process the incoming flow during rain events fast enough to prevent raw sewage from overflowing the structure and causing an environmental hazard.

Because the structure in which the current comminutors are located is a concrete structure, a retrofit unit had to be located. Only two companies have units that fit the space requirements. Quotes were requested from both companies. Smith & Loveless (the brand of comminutors being replaced) quoted with a lead time of 18 to 20 weeks. G.E.T. Industries Inc. quoted with a lead time of 6 to 8 weeks. The quotes are as follows:

G.E.T. Industries Inc	\$35,310.40
Smith & Loveless	\$90,703.00

In researching the reason for the large disparity in price, staff conducted a web search and was not able to locate any information on the quoted Smith & Loveless unit. Based on the lack of information and after talking with manufacturer's representative, Gasvoda & Associates Inc., staff believes that Smith & Loveless purchases these units from another manufacturer and that the price quoted includes a substantial mark-up. G.E.T. Industries Inc. is the manufacturer of the unit being quoted.

Due to the critical nature of these units and the lead times involved, this unit needs to be purchased on an emergency basis from G.E.T. Industries Inc.

Recommendation

The Public Works Department recommends that the City Council approve the emergency purchase from G.E.T. Industries Inc, Caledon, Ontario, Canada in the amount of \$35,310.40.

Vendor: G.E.T. Industries Inc.
Payment Amount: \$35,310.40

Fund:	506	Wastewater Operation & Maintenance
Department:	618	Utilities Services
Cost Center:	343	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Object Code:	52305	Auto/Equipment Supplies

Requisition Number: R008612

Submitted by: Michael T. Bartels, Public Works Director
Jason Upton, Utilities Superintendent
Lisa Perry, Wastewater Supervisor

Approved by: Randall D. Tweet, City Manager



G.E.T. INDUSTRIES INC.

33 Cedar Drive, Caledon, Ontario L7K 1H5
 Tel: (905) 451-9900 Fax: (519) 927-9315
 Email: get@grindhog.com Web: www.grindhog.com

SOLD TO:

City of Rock Island
 Public Works Department
 1309 Mill Street
 Rock Island, IL 61201

INVOICE

DATE
4-Jun-21
INVOICE
1752
OUR ORDER NUMBER
G21-726
TAG
ROCK ISLAND III

SHIP TO:

City of Rock Island
 Wastewater Treatment Plant
 1299 Mill Street
 Rock Island, IL 61201

ATTENTION:

Lisa Perry

TELEPHONE NO.

309-732-2300

YOUR ORDER NO.		DATE OF ORDER		TERMS		HST			
E-Mail		18-Mar-21		N30		NA			
DATE SHIPPED		SHIPPED FROM		SHIPPED VIA		PREPAID & ADD		COLLECT	
4-Jun-21		Brampton		Transport		XX			
QTY	SHIPPED	B/O	DESCRIPTION			UNIT PRICE	EXTENDED PRICE		
1	1		Replacement for Jones & Attwood (Smith & Loveless) 15R Grind Hog™ 16A (MC), Ser. 9249 > Capacity 3.5 MGD > Rotation: Clockwise > Motor 1 1/2 Hp., TEFC, 208-230/460/3/60 > Motor Support Column Plus Freight				\$34,625.00		
							\$685.40		
G.E.T. INDUSTRIES INC. HST Registration No.R102078268 / Tax ID (EIN) 98-0231875						TOTAL US\$	\$35,310.40		