

BOARD MEETING DATE: June 3, 2022

AGENDA NO. 8

PROPOSAL: Authorize Executive Officer to Enter into Funding Agreement with CARB, Recognize Revenue, Appropriate Funds and Execute Contract for Technical Support to Conduct Certification Testing of Non-PFAS Fume Suppressant for Chrome Plating Operations

SYNOPSIS: South Coast AQMD is expected to receive funds up to \$60,000 from CARB to conduct certification testing per the Hexavalent Chromium Airborne Toxic Control Measure for Chrome Plating and Chromic Acid Anodizing Operations and Rule 1469. Due to the public health concern regarding Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), CARB is exploring alternatives to PFAS-containing fume suppressants used in chrome plating. CARB is also looking to certify, for use, a non-PFAS-containing fume suppressant for decorative and hard chrome plating operations. CARB is proposing to allocate initial funding in FY 2021-2022 and subsequent funding in FY 2022-2023 to complete this work. These actions are to: 1) authorize the Executive Officer to enter into a funding agreement with CARB; 2) recognize revenue and appropriate funds of up to \$60,000, upon receipt, into Science & Technology Advancement (STA) FY 2021-22 and/or FY 2022-23 Budget; and 3) authorize the Executive Officer to execute a contract with Alliance Source Testing, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 from STA FY 2021-22 and/or FY 2022-23 Budget to provide technical support for certification testing.

COMMITTEE: Administrative, May 12, 2022; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Authorize the Executive Officer to enter into a funding agreement with CARB for implementing a program to conduct certification testing of a non-PFAS fume suppressant in chrome plating operations;
2. Recognize revenue and appropriate funds of up to \$60,000, upon receipt, into Science & Technology Advancement (STA) FY 2021-22 and/or FY 2022-23 Budget; and

3. Authorize the Executive Officer to execute a contract with Alliance Source Testing, LLC (Alliance) in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 from the Services and Supplies Major Object in STA FY 2021-22 and/or FY 2022-23 Budget to provide technical support for certification testing.

Wayne Nastri
Executive Officer

MMM:JCL:BW

Background

Rule 1469 – Hexavalent Chromium Emissions from Chromium Electroplating and Chromic Acid Anodizing Operations (Rule 1469) allows use of chemical fume suppressants to control hexavalent chromium emissions, provided the fume suppressant has been tested and certified by South Coast AQMD to meet specific parameters. Most certified fume suppressants contain PFAS, which is a carcinogen. A new non-PFAS fume suppressant has been developed and must be tested for efficacy and certification to comply with the requirements of Rule 1469 and the CARB Hexavalent Chromium Airborne Toxic Control Measure for Chrome Plating and Chromic Acid Anodizing Operations (Chrome Plating ATCM). A contractor is needed to conduct emissions testing to determine if the new fume suppressant can be certified.

Proposal

This action is to recognize revenue and appropriate funds up to \$60,000 from CARB into STA FY 2021-22 and/or FY 2022-23 Budget to support fume suppressant certification testing activities required under the South Coast AQMD Rule 1469 and also CARB Chrome Plating ATCM.

Proposed Sole Source Contract

This action authorizes the Executive Officer to execute a multi-year contract with Alliance to provide technical support in the effort to certify a non-PFAS chemical fume suppressant. Alliance has the unique capability with experience to conduct metal emissions testing with variable flow and specialized equipment. Alliance will be responsible for conducting certification testing using the non-PFAS fume suppressant on at least one decorative chrome plating operation and at least one hard chrome/functional chrome plating operation. Alliance will provide certification test reports documenting emissions and fume suppressant performance to South Coast AQMD for certification evaluation.

Sole Source Justification

Section VIII.B.2 of the Procurement Policy and Procedure identifies four major provisions under which a sole source award may be justified. The request for a sole

source contract with Alliance is made under Sections VIII.B.2.c (1): The unique experience and capabilities of the proposed contractor; and VIII.B.2.d (6): Projects requiring compatibility with existing specialized equipment. Alliance is uniquely qualified to provide the specialized expertise necessary to conduct fume suppressant testing. They are the only contractor currently capable and has experience of conducting metal emissions testing from unvented sources. In addition, Alliance is in possession of existing specialized equipment needed for variable exhaust flow adjustments and measurements of surface tension of the chromic acid tank solutions. This requires the design and fabrication of a test rig for sampling as well as existing equipment needed for variable flow adjustments and measurements of surface tension of the chromic acid tank solutions. There are no other vendors who can currently provide the equipment and expertise necessary to fulfill the testing requirements.

Benefits to South Coast AQMD

CARB funding for non-PFAS fume suppressant certification will support South Coast AQMD's effort to fulfill the requirements of Rule 1469, which will result in benefits to environmental justice communities and others working and residing in the Basin near chrome plating operations.

Resource Impacts

Upon Board approval, the contract with Alliance will be fully funded by the CARB agreement for testing non-PFAS containing fume suppressants in different chrome plating operations.