

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources
Environmental Protection Commission**

ITEM

5

DECISION

TOPIC Contract Amendments – Archeology Services for the State Revolving Fund Programs

Recommendations:

Commission approval is requested for amendments to the “not-to-exceed” amounts of the following contracts for archeological and architectural history services:

- Wapsi Valley Archaeology, Inc.
- The Louis Berger Group, Inc.
- Marina Consulting Corp.

There are no other changes proposed to the contracts.

Background:

These are three of the five master contracts that the DNR has with archeology and/or architectural history firms. When a survey is needed as part of the environmental review for a State Revolving Fund (SRF) project, the five firms are asked to bid. One is then chosen based on price, timing, or special expertise, and a contract addendum is executed for the needed work.

The five contracts were executed last spring with a not-to-exceed amount of \$60,000 worth of addenda. DNR’s goal was to be able to spread the work among all the contractors to ensure that all of our projects could be completed on a timely basis. Unfortunately, the contract with the University of Iowa’s Office of State Archeologist (OSA) was late in being signed and OSA since has not bid on any projects. The fifth firm, The 106 Group, only does architectural history and cannot bid on archeological studies.

The following two factors have resulted in larger amounts of work going to the three firms listed above: First, an unanticipated number of new projects have been added to the SRF workload due to federal and state stimulus funding. Second, DNR recently have had several unusually large addenda related to projects in culturally sensitive areas or with extensive project areas.

DNR anticipates reaching the \$60,000 limit with these three firms within the next few months. DNR has issued \$121,469 in contract addenda to date.

DNR would like to amend the three contracts to change the not-to-exceed amount in each to \$120,000. This will give the DNR the ability to continue to use the master contracts to get surveys completed in a timely and cost-effective way for our SRF applicants.

Funding Source:

The funding for these contracts comes from the administrative accounts of the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs. The costs to date are part of the environmental review and approval process for water and wastewater projects totaling \$145 million. The SRF programs receive funds for administration from federal capitalization grants as well as from the 1% origination fee charged on loans.

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October 26, 2009