

DETERMINATION DECISION MEMO

Renovation of Somerset Dam

Project Number: 199-36

Location: Somerset County

Project Allocation: \$3,000,000

Est. Construction Duration: 72 weeks

DETERMINATION REGARDING THE USE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) METHOD OF PROCUREMENT

The use of the standard competitive sealed bid process for the renovation of the Somerset Dam is not practical or advantageous to the Commonwealth.

The scope of renovating this high hazard dam requires a contractor with dam-specific construction experience; the concrete requirements on this project are different from roadway construction. Specifically, the project scope involves:

- The underlying aquifer requires specialty subgrade material; experience in heavy highway work doesn't translate to this project.
- The labyrinth requires 20' concrete wall which is not the usual form work.
- Repairs will require a demonstrated ability and familiarity with complicated draw down procedures; the work does not require a breach.
- The drain system on the toe requires placing fill underwater.
- The project requires a contractor with ample experience on dam construction to understand the unique civil and structural requirements of the project design.
- The Scheduling aspects of the project require a contractor who can create a CPM spanning across numerous seasons to accommodate the concrete work.
- The existing conditions will require working in the water on the downstream side of the dam.
- The work will require installation of a second sluice gate.

The above factors demonstrate the unique construction considerations on this project, which requires specific contractor knowledge, skill and experience to safely and successfully complete the renovations to this high hazard dam. Consequently, it is not practical or advantageous to use the competitive sealed bidding process because the low

bid approach does not allow the Commonwealth to consider the specific factors presented herein and cost in the award process in a timely manner.



Deputy Secretary for Public Works

11-10-16

Date