DETERMINATION DECISION MEMO
Lower Woods Pond Dam Upgrades
Project Number: 199-45 Location: Wayne County
Project Allocation: $2,600,000 Est. Construction Duration: 365 CD

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

The Lower Woods Pond site contains a single pond with 3 separate dams. The scope for this project will rebuild the existing reinforced concrete weir spillway with a reinforced concrete labyrinth spillway capable of passing and/or storing the required design storm along with constructing a control gate in the tower.

The use of the standard competitive sealed bid process for upgrading the Lower Woods Pond 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 with safety and water control. In addition the project:

- involves work on a high hazard dam; risk of life for all those downstream is a critical concern and of utmost importance. The Contractor must be experienced and capable of formulating emergency evacuation plans after the award of the contract.
- construction on this high hazard dam spans several months of work, including a winter shut down, which will require scheduling expertise to incorporate the shut down(s) within the contractual duration.
- excavating and re-using excess spoils that must remain on site;
- this site contains identified wetlands located within a high quality watershed, requiring extensive specialized contractor experience in E&S plans and wetland mitigation.

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  
7-12-19  
Date