

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: TIPPING FEES FOR ASH DISPOSAL FOR POWER PLANT-
CHANGE ORDER #1**

BACKGROUND:

The City's Power Plant has an ash pond where combusted Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) residue settles to the bottom. The ash itself is composed of inorganic materials in the fuel that do not burn and must be removed from the boilers to allow continual operation. Once deposited in the ash pond, the relatively clean water on the top of the pond can be recycled to the Power Plant to transport additional ash from the bottom of the boilers. Over time the ash builds up on the bottom of the pond and reduces the available capacity of the pond. This ash must be periodically removed via excavating or dredging. Wulfekuhle Injection & Pumping holds the contract to remove the ash from the pond.

Boone County landfill is the designated landfill for our solid waste planning area, and therefore would typically be where dredged ash is disposed of. Boone County Landfill does not want to receive the RDF combustion ash and has instead instructed the City to haul all ash to Metro East landfill.

The City has a contract with Metro Park East Landfill – Metro Waste Authority in the amount of \$48,850 for the tipping fees associated with ash disposal. At the time this purchase order was entered into, it was anticipated that much of the ash in the pond would be able to remain in place rather than being hauled. **However, the portion of the ash pond that was originally intended to store the ash now needs to be cleared to accommodate the planned modifications to the ash pond that will occur later this year.**

The ash now must be hauled to the landfill more often until all the coal ash is removed from the active portion of the ash pond. This temporary condition will end once the current CIP project for the ash pond is complete next summer.

THIS ACTION:

The action being requested is to approve Change Order No. 1 to Metro Park East Landfill - Metro Waste Authority for an increase in tipping fees. This change order will add an additional \$145,000 to the current contract for FY 2022/23. This will bring the total contract amount to \$193,850.

Change Order No. 1 is needed in response to a need to deposit an increased amount of materials in the Metro Solid Waste landfill for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

The additional funds for this change order will come from the Power Plant Ash System account where \$135,000 was allocated for non-city services and ash system supplies. The additional \$10,000 will come from the boiler maintenance account.

It should be noted that the increased ash disposal will require additional funds to be expended to haul the ash to the landfill. The hauling work is addressed in a separate contract with Wulfekuhle. Staff is evaluating whether to add funds to the Wulfekuhle contract through a change order, or to bid the increased hauling work again. In either case, staff will bring an item to the Council at a future meeting to add funds or award a new contract for the hauling.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve Change Order No. 1 to Metro Waste Authority, Des Moines, IA in the amount of \$145,000 for additional services.
2. Do not approve the requested change order.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Power Plant needs to remove a substantial amount of ash from the ash pond in order to complete the Ash Pond modification project. This change order will provide the necessary funds to address the disposal of the ash; the increased hauling costs will be addressed in a separate action at a later date.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No.1, as described.