

**Consent Agenda Briefing for PWSRCAC Board of Directors – May 2026**

**ACTION ITEM**

**Sponsor:** Linda Swiss and the Oil Spill Prevention and Response Committee

**Project number and name or topic:** 6510 – Contingency Plan Reviews

1. **Description of agenda item:** In January 2010, the Board approved a process where contractors are selected to provide technical advice on contingency plan reviews every five years. The method involves a full competitive bid process through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ). An evaluation team made up of staff and volunteers reviews and ranks submittals to the RFQ, and contractors are selected to provide expert advice. Each contractor verifies on an annual basis their availability to provide advice to the Council.

Since FY1998, work on projects related to oil spill prevention and response contingency plans (c-plans) has been managed using pre-qualified contractors. The primary project manager administers the contracts, and the c-plan project team discusses specific activities and makes recommendations for action to be taken. Pre-identifying technical experts/contractors for use in PWSRCAC’s review of c-plans and various issues associated with the plans is a time-saving and cost-effective process.

Pre-qualified contractors for Project 6510 – Contingency Plan Reviews were selected and approved in 2023 to provide services for five years. These contractors include:

- (1) Nuka Research and Planning, LLC

2. **Why is this item important to PWSRCAC:** The tanker and terminal c-plan approval process includes important actions that could potentially impact every member organization, as c-plans outline response and prevention activities that a spiller, or responsible party will be required to undertake to protect our region's shorelines, resources, and communities in the event of a spill. Review of c-plans is a major task for PWSRCAC, as outlined in both the PWSRCAC/Alyeska contract and OPA 90. Having adequate expertise readily available to perform c-plan reviews and tasks related to the plans, a process that is often driven by external deadlines, is key to PWSRCAC fulfilling its c-plan review mission objectives. It is important to be prepared and to have the expertise and resources readily available to address issues as they arise.

The Tanker C-Plan was renewed in February 2022, and expires in 2027. The VMT C-Plan was renewed in November 2024, and expires in November 2029.

3. **Previous actions taken by the Board on this item:**

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Action</u>
Board	May 2021	Approved individual contracts with Attorney Breck Tostevin, Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC, Polaris Applied Sciences, and Shannon & Wilson for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 651

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Board	May 2022	Contingency Plan Review in the FY2023 budget, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants. Approved individual contracts with Attorney Breck Tostevin, Nuka Research and Planning, and Polaris Applied Sciences for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 651 Contingency Plan Review in the FY2023 budget, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants.
Board	May 2023	Approved individual contracts with Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC, and Attorney Breck Tostevin for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for Project 651 Contingency Plan Review in the final FY2024 budget, and delegation of authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants.
Board	Jan 2024	Delegation of authority to the Executive Director to negotiate contract increases with selected contingency plan review contractors at a cost not to exceed \$90,000 for project 6510: State Contingency Plan Reviews for FY2024.
Board	May 2024	Authorized individual contracts with Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC. and Attorney Breck Tostevin for professional services in FY2025 with the aggregate total not to exceed \$80,000.
Board	March 2025	Authorized FY2025 budget modification of \$15,000 to project 6510 and authorized corresponding contract increase for selected contingency plan review contractors for an aggregate amount not to exceed \$95,000.
Board	May 2025	Authorized individual contracts with Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC., and Attorney Breck Tostevin for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for 6510 - Contingency Plan Reviews in the final FY2026 budget, and delegation of authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with the selected consultants.

4. **Summary of policy, issues, support, or opposition:** Over the years, Board members have expressed some concern regarding PWSRCAC's use of pre-qualified experts/consultants. The OSPR Committee addressed this process in an effort to improve it and made the following recommendation, which was approved by the Board at the January 2010 meeting:

**Process for Contingency Plan Contractor Selection:** Advertise Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for contingency plan contractor technical support every five (5) years. Selected contractors will be included on a list of qualified contingency plan contractors and will be valid for a five-year term. Interested contractors are welcome to submit qualifications at any time to be considered for inclusion on the list of qualified contractors. The list of qualified contingency plan contractors will be submitted to the Board for approval at the next Board meeting following OSPR Committee recommendation. An annual letter will be submitted to contractors on the list to confirm availability and any other changes.

The Board has recognized that the current RFQ method appears to be the most time-efficient and cost-effective approach for handling the c-plan review process and associated tasks. The next five-year RFQ advertisement is scheduled to take place in 2028.

5. **Committee Recommendation:** The OSPR Committee recommended the list of pre-selected contractors for FY2027 for Board approval.

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6. **Relationship to LRP and Budget:** Project 6510 – Contingency Plan Reviews is in the proposed FY2027 budget in the amount of \$80,000.
7. **Action Requested of the Board of Directors:** Authorize an individual contract with Nuka Research and Planning Group, LLC, for professional services with the aggregate total not to exceed the amount approved for Project 6510 - Contingency Plan Reviews in the final FY2027 budget, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into individual contracts with selected consultants.
8. **Attachments:** None.