

# Memorandum

**To:** Mayor Elinor Carbone and Water Pollution Control Authority

**CC:** Jerry Rollett, DPW  
Carol Anderson  
Mary Zordan  
Pennie Zucco

**From:** Ray Drew, Administrator WPCA

**Date:** 7/18/18

**Re:** Bid#: WPU-041-040318RB – WPCF Comprehensive Upgrade

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1. Vote by the City Council herein acting as the Water Pollution Control Authority to accept the recommendation of the WPCA Administrator, Purchasing Agent and cities consulting engineers Wright-Pierce to award Bid# WPU-041-040318RB – Water Pollution Control Facility Comprehensive Upgrade to C.H. Nickerson of Torrington, CT for the amount of \$54,275,900.00, and authorize the Mayor execute said contract. Contingent upon approval from Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

July 19, 2018  
W-P Project No. 13164H

Mr. Raymond Drew, Administrator  
Water Pollution Control Authority  
City of Torrington  
140 Main Street  
Torrington, CT 06790

Subject: Torrington WPCF Comprehensive Upgrade Project  
Evaluation of Bids

Dear Ray,

We have completed our review of the bids that were received on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for the City of Torrington Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) Comprehensive Upgrade Project. This letter represents a summary of our findings.

Two bids were received - C.H. Nickerson and Walsh Construction Company. Both bid packages were reviewed and a tabulation summarizing the bid proposals is attached. Note that both proposal packages included all the necessary supplemental information required in the package, i.e. bid bond, DAS Update Statements, etc.

C.H. Nickerson of Torrington, CT submitted the lowest Total Bid value of \$54,275,900. The second bidder was approximately 21.3 % higher than the lowest Total Bid. The lowest bid was approximately \$4.4 million lower than the Engineers estimate. Note that the Engineer's original estimate was based on aggressive construction schedule requiring the phosphorus removal system to be constructed by April 2020, giving the Contractor only approximately 18 months to construct the entire system and all associated infrastructure. However, during the bidding process an addendum modified the project and eliminated the requirement for the Contractor to have the permanent phosphorus removal system operational by April 2020 and instead included an allowance for installation of a temporary phosphorus removal system. A significant portion of the difference between the lowest bid and the engineers estimate is associated with the elimination of aggressive construction deadline. Furthermore, based on recent bids on similar wastewater projects throughout Connecticut, the bid submitted by C.H. Nickerson appears reasonable for the type of work involved and the overall range of the bids reflects the current bidding climate in the state.

Wright-Pierce has recent experience working with C.H. Nickerson on the construction of comprehensive WPCF upgrade projects at The Mattabassett District and in Farmington, CT. The project costs were approximately \$117 and 58 million respectively. During the duration of these projects, their work was consistently met the intent of the design and was on schedule. These projects demonstrate that C.H. Nickerson can perform a project like the Torrington Comprehensive Upgrade Project.



We have contacted Carol Craver, Senior Vice President of Webster Bank located Waterbury, CT. Ms. Craver stated that C.H. Nickerson maintains deposit accounts and sizable lines of credit and have been customers for over 20 years. To date, there are no outstanding balances on the lines of credit. Furthermore, the deposit accounts and lines of credit are maintained satisfactorily and appropriate to their standards.

Based on the above, we are not aware of any reason why this contract should not be awarded to C.H. Nickerson as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. However, we cannot make any guarantee that they will perform the work within the bid price or in accordance with the Contract Documents.

If the City decides to proceed with the project based on the lowest responsive bid, the City should issue a letter to C.H. Nickerson stating the City's intention to award the contract. Suggested language for this letter is attached. We are prepared to assist you with submitting the necessary documentation to CT DEEP for approval, awarding the contract, requesting the required bonds and insurance information, and executing the Contract Documents.

Sincerely,  
WRIGHT-PIERCE

Christine Kurtz, PE  
Senior Project Manager

*Enclosures*

cc: Mayor Elinor Carbone – Mayor  
Jerry Rollett, PE - Public Works Director, City of Torrington  
Pennie Zucco – Purchasing Department, City of Torrington  
Stephen Muollo, Stela Marusin, George Hicks – State of CT DEEP

**City of Torrington ,CT**  
**Comprehensive WPCF Upgrade Project**  
7/10/18 2:00 PM



Engineers Estimate \$58,716,000

Engineers Estimate \$58,716,000										BIDDER'S NAME		BIDDER'S NAME	
										C.H. Nickerson		Walsh Construction Company	
										07/10/2018		07/10/2018	
No.	Item	Qty.	UNIT	Engineer's Est.		Engineer's Est.	UNIT	UNIT AMT	BID	UNIT AMT	BID		
				UNIT AMT	TOTAL								
1	Water Pollution Control Facility Upgrade, complete, except Items 2 through 17	1	LS	\$56,384,000	\$56,384,000			\$51,806,900	\$51,806,900	\$66,451,500	\$66,451,500		
2	Ultraviolet Disinfection System Equipment and Manufacturer's Services. (Specifications Section 11200)	1	ALL	\$505,000	\$505,000			\$505,000	\$505,000	\$505,000	\$505,000		
3	Ballasted Flocculation Tertiary Treatment System Equipment and Manufacturer's Services	1	ALL	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000			\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000	\$1,300,000		
4	Additional Select Fill	100	CY	\$20	\$2,000			\$35	\$3,500	\$45	\$4,500		
5	Additional Screened Stone	200	CY	\$30	\$6,000			\$40	\$8,000	\$64	\$12,700		
6	Additional Earthwork Excavation and Disposal	400	CY	\$20	\$8,000			\$35	\$14,000	\$61	\$24,400		
7	Ledge Excavation and Disposal	100	CY	\$100	\$10,000			\$150	\$15,000	\$127	\$12,700		
8	Concrete Repair to Existing Concrete Tanks and Structures	1000	SF	\$50	\$50,000			\$145	\$145,000	\$110	\$110,000		
9	Crack Repair to Existing Concrete Tanks and Structures	1,000	SF	\$40	\$40,000			\$65	\$65,000	\$83	\$82,500		
10	Repair of Previously Repaired (Routed and Caulked) Concrete Cracks	500	LF	\$45	\$22,500			\$45	\$22,500	\$138	\$68,750		
11	Electrical, Water, Telephone Service, Data and Fire Alarm Systems Allowance	1	ALL	\$50,000	\$50,000			\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000		
12	Test Pit Excavation	500	CY	\$25	\$12,500			\$30	\$15,000	\$115	\$57,500		
13	Existing Gate Rehabilitation - Minor	3	EA	\$8,000	\$24,000			\$7,500	\$22,500	\$4,150	\$12,450		
14	Existing Gate Rehabilitation - Major	3	EA	\$13,000	\$39,000			\$13,500	\$40,500	\$14,000	\$42,000		
15	Existing Groundwater Pressure Relief Valves Rehabilitation or Replacement Allowance	1	ALL	\$10,000	\$10,000			\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000		
16	Additional Asbestos, Lead, PCBs, and Mercury Abatement Allowance	1	ALL	\$100,000	\$100,000			\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$100,000		
17	Town of Harwinton Permit and Inspection Allowance	1	ALL	\$102,000	\$102,000			\$102,000	\$102,000	\$102,000	\$102,000		
18	Temporary Phosphorous Removal System	1	ALL	\$35,000	\$35,000			\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$35,000		
19	Sludge Roll-Off Containers	1	ALL	\$16,000	\$16,000			\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$16,000		
TOTAL BID					\$58,716,000				\$54,275,900		\$68,997,000		
Was all required supplemental Bid Documentation provided?										Yes	Yes		



Webster Bank, N.A.  
CityPlace II  
185 Asylum Street, 5th Floor  
Hartford, CT 06103-3494  
[WebsterOnline.com](http://WebsterOnline.com)

July 13, 2018

City of Torrington, Water Pollution Control Authority  
140 Main Street  
Torrington, CT 06790

Re: C H Nickerson & Co., Inc.

To Whom It May Concern:

C H Nickerson & Co., Inc has been a customer of Webster Bank, N.A. since September 1995.

C H Nickerson & Co., Inc has four Commercial Checking account(s). The account(s) are handled as agreed and there is no history of non-sufficient funds.

Additionally, the company has a Working Capital line of credit. The account is handled as agreed and is in compliance with the terms and conditions.

C H Nickerson & Co., Inc is in good standing.

Should you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jeanine Barco'.

Jeanine Barco  
Administrative Assistant  
Webster Bank, N.A.  
Tel: 860-692-1651  
Fax: 860-692-1669  
Email: [jbarco@websterbank.com](mailto:jbarco@websterbank.com)