

Staff Report

for the Board of Directors' Meeting of April 10, 2019

TO: Honorable Board of Directors

FROM: Keane Sommers, P.E., Hydroelectric Manager

DATE: April 3, 2019

SUBJECT: Dam Safety Engineer – Temporary Support

HYDROELECTRIC

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a temporary Assistant Engineer/Associate Engineer position in the Hydroelectric Department, approve a budget transfer, and authorize the General Manager to execute necessary documents.

BACKGROUND:

NID owns and operates 15 dams under the jurisdiction of the California Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). All of these dams, with the exception of Deer Creek Diversion and Loma Rica Airport, are also under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The dam safety regulatory environment has changed dramatically following the Oroville Spillway failure in 2017. That failure has caused both FERC and DSOD to change their approach to regulated entities requiring additional documentation, planning, and review.

On December 12, 2018, the Board of Directors awarded a contract to Geo-Logic Associates (GLA) for dam safety support services in 2019. Following that meeting District Staff was unable to negotiate a contract that provided the District the necessary protections for the work and no contract was issued. The need for support remains. In an effort to complete the additional work, staff is requesting the approval of a temporary full-time employee. Funds originally budgeted for the GLA contract will be transferred from the Consulting/Contractor Fees for the temporary position. Tasks to be completed are similar to those identified in the staff report dated December 5, 2018.

In an effort to determine if the temporary employee approach to filling the position would be successful, the District advertised the job as Assistant Engineer/Associate

Engineer and received a number of qualified, positive responses. Staff believes it will be able to fill the temporary position with a qualified candidate.

This item addresses Goal No. 1 of the District's Strategic Plan by maintaining environmental compliance.

BUDGETARY IMPACT:

Filling this position with a temporary employee requires a budget amendment transferring \$175,000 from 50112-52603 to 50112-51201. There is a zero dollar net change in the 2019 budget as a result of this action. Upon approval of this item, the budget balance in 50112-52603 will be \$1,880,000.

KSS

Attachment:

- Budget Amendment Request



**NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
BUDGET AMENDMENT REQUEST**

Request Number

Req. No BA 2019 - 107

Date: 4/3/2019
 To: Remleh Scherzinger, General Manager
 From: Keane Sommers, Hydroelectric Manager

Initial _____

Budget Transfer: Enter Operating/Capital Expenditure or Revenue line items.

Department	Object / Account	Increase/(Decrease)
50112 Hydro Administration	51201 Temporary Salary	\$ 175,000.00
50112 Hydro Administration	52603 Consulting/Contractor Fees	\$ (175,000.00)

Budget Increase: Enter Operating/Capital Expenditure or Revenue line items.

Department	Object / Account	Increase/(Decrease)

Division Fund	Funding Account	Increase/(Decrease)

Explanation: Enter narrative explaining reason for amendment.

Request budget transfer reducing dollars from the consultant/contractor budget in Hydroelectric Department to create a temporary employee in the position of an Assistant Engineer Associate for the Dam Safety Program.

APPROVALS:

	<u>Date</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>AGM/FM Initials</u>	<u>Approved/Denied</u>
Level I:				
Level II:				
Level III:				