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<b>TO:</b>	<b>CHAIR AND MEMBERS CIVIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012</b>
<b>FROM:</b>	<b>JOHN BRAAM, P.Eng. DIRECTOR, WATER AND CITY ENGINEER PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>EXTEND THE POLYMER SUPPLY CONTRACT- WASTEWATER TREATMENT</b>

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
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That, on the recommendation of the Acting Executive Director, Planning, Environmental and Engineering Services, the following actions **BE TAKEN** with respect to extending the contract with SNF Canada Ltd. for the supply of polymers used in the sludge thickening and dewatering processes at the City's wastewater treatment plants.

1. Approval **BE GIVEN** to extend the polymer supply contract for an additional 14 months beyond the expiry of the current contract, noting SNF will hold the existing contract pricing for the duration of the extension. Total polymer purchases in 2011 were \$320,000 and the current contract expires April 30, 2012.
2. That the Civic Administration **BE AUTHORIZED** to undertake all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection with this contract; and
3. Approval hereby given **BE CONDITIONAL** upon the Corporation entering into a formal contract or issuing a purchase order relating to the subject matter of this approval.

<b>PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER</b>
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None

<b>BACKGROUND</b>
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**Purpose**

The City's Wastewater Treatment Operations (WTO) division uses polymers in the sludge thickening and dewatering processes. Upgrades for these processes are in progress at the Greenway plant and pilot testing has shown liquid polymers will be required instead of the dry polymers currently in use; these processes each use different polymer formulations. This report outlines the advantages of extending the polymer supply contract until all the new equipment is commissioned in March 2013.

**Discussion**

Rotating drum thickeners have been approved for purchase and will be installed at the Greenway plant by the end of 2012. Centrifuges have also been approved as part of the biosolids upgrades at Greenway and these should be commissioned in March 2013. Thickening involves concentrating sludge from 0.5% solids to 5% solids while the dewatering upgrades will concentrate sludge from 5% to approximately 26% solids. Optimizing these processes will involve polymer suppliers testing their various products at multiple dosages to determine the best, lowest cost alternative. The best SNF products were identified during the pilot testing and will be used during commissioning the new equipment. We know the equipment will function as intended with SNF products and alternative suppliers will be given the opportunity to test their products on the equipment after installation. They will be able to complete this testing in advance of the City tendering the new polymer contract in 2013.

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**Discussion...cont'd**


The polymer tendering process is very time consuming for both the suppliers and the City as the processes must be switched over to the test product for a 1-2 week period. There are 3-4 potential suppliers and each may want to test 2-3 products on each process and as such, a two year contract is desirable. Extending the existing polymer supply contract for 14 months will allow continuity while the new equipment is installed and commissioned rather than performing testing, tendering and potentially changing suppliers in May 2012 and then again in 2013. It will also align the polymer supply contract with the rest of the chemical supply contracts which expire June 30, 2013. SNF has provided good value and service to the City and was very helpful during the pilot testing.

**Conclusions**

Extending the polymer supply contract for 14 months will allow operational continuity while new equipment is installed, eliminate the time consuming process of evaluating multiple suppliers and products for a relatively short duration contract, and will also allow inclusion of the polymer supply contract with the tender for the rest of the chemicals used in WTO and Water Operations..

**Acknowledgements**

This report was prepared by Geordie Gauld, Division Manager, Wastewater and Treatment Operations.

<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED BY:</b>
	
<b>GEORDIE GAULD DIVISION MANAGER, WASTEWATER AND TREATMENT OPERATIONS</b>	<b>JOHN BRAAM, P.ENG. ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL &amp; ENGINEERING SERVICES &amp; CITY ENGINEER</b>