



Memorandum

MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Reviewed by  Date 3.8.07
General Manager

DATE: March 9, 2007
TO: General Manager
FROM: Assistant General Manager
SUBJECT: Ratification of Purchase of Back-up Generator

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board of Directors ratify the emergency purchase and installation of a back-up diesel generator to power the Administration Building, Scale Kiosk, Last Chance Mercantile and Household Hazardous Waste Facility, due to increased power (PG&E) utility trips. Funds for this purchase were included in the FY 2006/2007 Budget.

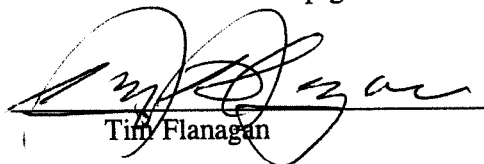
DISCUSSION

The District's power generation facility has experienced an increased number of PG&E utility trips over the last couple of years. These unanticipated utility trips bring unanticipated consequences, caused by the re-setting of the parameters for utility trips in accordance with procedures mandated by PG&E and causing an increase in the number of utility trips and power shutdowns on site. These "hard trips" (those that are not planned or anticipated) cause disruption to the power supply on site with potentially severe consequences to the delicate control systems and computer systems operating on site.

The existing back-up natural gas generator, serving the Administration Building, was determined to be inadequate by an engineering firm (Square D Company) in 2003. The generator was scheduled for replacement this fiscal year. Unfortunately, the systems trips from PG&E have been occurring at a greater frequency. Staff determined that this constituted a serious problem and an emergency situation heading into the winter months when an even greater number of utility trips from PG&E occur. Staff solicited quotes for the replacement of the generator and received a favorable quote from Day Electric to supply and install the emergency backup generator for a price of \$55,000. Day Electric's proposal was approximately \$25,000 below the budgeted amount and \$40,000 below the next closest quote. Day Electric completed the installation at the end of December 2006.

SUMMARY

It is recommended that the Board ratify the purchase and installation of the back-up generator due to the urgency of its replacement.


Tim Flanagan