

Grand River Conservation Authority

Report number: GM-10-23-77

Date: October 22, 2023

To: Members of the Grand River Conservation Authority

Subject: Conestogo Dam Bridge Deck Rehabilitation – Energy Attenuator – Project Award

Recommendation:

THAT the Grand River Conservation Authority award the contract for the Conestogo Dam Bridge Deck Rehabilitation – Energy Attenuator supply and installation project to Royal Fence Limited for the amount of \$129,500 (excluding HST).

AND THAT an overall project budget of \$142,450 (excluding HST) be approved for this project.

Summary:

A Request for Quotations for project the Conestogo Dam – Bridge Deck Rehabilitation (Energy Attenuator) was distributed to a selected list of five (5) contractors. The GRCA received two (2) quotation packages on September 22, 2023, and recommends award of the contract to Royal Fence Limited as the low quote. Both quotation packages met all the submission requirements.

Report:

The GRCA manages a large portfolio of water control structures. Annual inspections are performed at the structures and repair work is identified; then planned and prioritized as part of the 5 year budget forecasts. Concrete repairs have been identified to address deterioration on the upstream and downstream portions of Conestogo Dam along with the bridge deck. The strategy for concrete repairs at Conestogo Dam was developed by engineering consultant, AECOM Canada Limited (AECOM), through consultation with GRCA staff. The downstream repairs were completed in three phases which took place between 2019 and 2021. The work on the road deck commenced in 2022 with the deferred installation of an energy attenuator on the bridge deck to be completed in 2023. The upstream portions of the dam are to be worked on in the years to come.

A project for the rehabilitation of all bridge components including waterproofing, paving, concrete repairs, expansion joint replacement, and the repaving of the dam parking area was tendered and awarded in 2022. An item that was identified during the project to meet current safety standards as well as operational constraints was the provision of a permanent narrow energy attenuator (crash barrier). Due to budget and timeline constraints this item was out of scope of the contract for the project Conestogo Dam – Bridge Deck Rehabilitation that was completed in 2022.

A Request for Quotations (RFQ) for supply and installation of an energy attenuator was sent by AECOM to the following five (5) contractors:

- Royal Fence Limited.
- Weathertech Restoration Services Incorporated.
- Powell Contracting
- Peninsula Construction Incorporated.
- A.J. Braun Manufacturing Limited.

All contractors were contacted prior to distributing the RFQ and all indicated an interest in bidding in the work. The RFQ closed on September 22, 2023. GRCA received two bids as identified in Table 1.

Table 1 – Quotation Summary

Contractor	Amount (Excluding HST)
Royal Fence Limited	\$129,500
Peninsula Construction Inc.	\$138,500

The quotations were reviewed by GRCA staff and AECOM. AECOM developed the design and RFQ for the project and is acting on behalf of the GRCA as contract administrators for the project. Both quotation packages met submission requirements. The low quote was approximately \$44,500 over the engineering pre-estimate value which was based on a previous quotation received as part of the Conestogo Dam Bridge – Phase 3 work performed in 2022 and attempted to account for ongoing inflation and current industry-wide risk factors and project budget. There are several possible reasons for the higher than anticipated costs including a busier than anticipated construction season reducing the number of competitive bids; ongoing labour shortages in the construction industry increasing costs for skilled labour and risk; and, recent high inflation rates and significant increases in material costs. The project is recommended to advance regardless of the increased costs as these are not expected to reduce in the future and this work is required. The award of the project is recommended to go to Royal Fence Limited as the lowest quote and meeting all requirements.

Financial Implications:

The funding for this project has been included in the Water Control Structures maintenance budgets and 50 percent grant funding has been received under the provincial Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) program. The project cost overage will be covered within the approved WECI project funding agreement for this project DR23027 Conestogo Dam – Bridge Deck Rehabilitation Phase 2.

Other department considerations:

The Conestogo Dam bridge deck energy attenuator installation will result in the need for closure Wellington County Road 11 across the top of Conestogo Dam. A one-week road closure will be required within the work period to be scheduled in November or December 2023. A detour route has been planned. Service disruption notifications will be communicated to cottagers at Conestogo Lake, and a general notice will be posted on the GRCA website.

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