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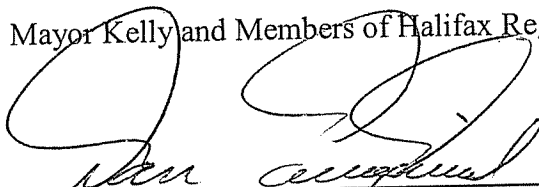


PO Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
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Halifax Regional Council  
September 5, 2006  
September 12, 2006

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Wayne Anstey, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: August 11, 2006

SUBJECT: **Consultant Award of Engineering Study  
Peggy's Cove Water and Sewer Servicing  
Options Evaluation and Preliminary Design Study**

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**ORIGIN**

Regional Council Meeting October 18, 2005; Item 7.18, Councillor Rankin - October 11, 2005  
Information Item #4, "Peggy's Cove Sewer and Water"

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that Regional Council:

1. Approve a new Capital Budget Project for Peggy's Cove Water and Sewer Servicing, Options Evaluation and Preliminary Design Study, in the amount of \$20,000 including net HST, with no net budget increase to HRM.

2. Award the engineering study for Peggy's Cove Water and Sewer Servicing: Options Evaluation and Preliminary Design Study, to ABL Environmental for a total cost of \$22,677 including net HST, from Capital Accounts CCV00672 & CSU00909, with funding authorized as per the Budget Implications section of this report.

## **BACKGROUND**

The community of Peggy's Cove is a high profile tourist destination for the Province of Nova Scotia, while continuing to operate as a traditional fishing village. Located at the eastern entrance of St. Margaret's Bay, it is geographically removed from the urban core of HRM. The community consists of about 40 homes, a few small businesses and one restaurant, the majority of which are currently serviced by individual on-site sewage disposal systems and individual water supply systems.

The local terrain is comprised primarily of bedrock outcrops with very thin, or non-existent, soil layers. These conditions are not well suited for on-site sub-surface sewage disposal. It has recently come to the attention of HRM that a number of septic systems in the community are malfunctioning. This is a public health concern in that raw sewage has been showing up at ground surface and in some cases, the sewage is being discharged directly into the ocean.

The existing individual drilled wells have quality problems related to both salt water intrusion and high levels of iron and manganese. Individual cistern supplies are also impacted by salt water. With the challenging geology and topography and the community's proximity to the ocean, it may be unlikely that individual safe and reliable well water supplies can be found and the implementation of a centralized system may be required.

## **DISCUSSION**

Three consultants were contacted and invited to submit a quotation to produce a study for Peggy's Cove Water and Sewer Servicing: Options Evaluation and Preliminary Design. The letter Request For Quotations was issued on June 26, 2006 and closed on July 18, 2006.

The purpose of this study is to examine solutions to the potential public health risks of malfunctioning septic systems and poor well water quality and quantity, and to produce a design within the confines of challenging topography and geology. The design must also be aesthetically compatible with Peggy's Cove's unique character.

The scope of work for this study includes an **Options Evaluation** section and a **Preliminary Design** section. The Options Evaluation will be presented in a report and will include the full range from traditional individual water supply and on-site sewage disposal systems, up to full 'conventional' central services, as well as a range of technologies in between, such as communal systems, cluster

**Award of Request for Quotation - Invited  
Peggy's Cove Water and Sewer Servicing  
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systems, decentralized systems and pre-manufactured or 'blended' systems. Non-traditional technologies will also be evaluated.

Once the Options Evaluation phase of the study has been completed, a meeting will be held with community stakeholders to discuss various options and associated costs and to get feedback from the community.

Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations has recently offered to fund 80% of the study, up to a maximum of \$20,000, through a non-repayable PCAP contribution (See Attachment 1). The additional 20% required for the study has been committed by Councillor Rankin, up to \$5,000, from the Capital Funds for District 22.

The following three proposals, exclusive of taxes, were received and evaluated:

		<u>Score (/1000)</u>
1	ABL Environmental	948
2	Land Design Engineering	858
3	SNC Lavalin	835

It is recommended that this study be awarded to the highest rated consultant, ABL Environmental Consultants Limited, for a cost, exclusive of taxes, of \$21,925. The detailed breakdown of the scoring is included as Attachment 2.

The study is expected to begin within two weeks of award and will take approximately fourteen (14) weeks to complete. A final report is expected to be delivered to HRM by early 2007.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

Based on the price of \$21,925 plus net HST, the total project cost is \$22,677. Funding is available in the Capital Budget from Account No. CSU00909 & CCV00672. The budget availability has been confirmed by Financial Services.

**Budget Summary: Account No, CSU00909 Peggy's Cove Water and Sewer Servicing:  
Options Evaluation and Preliminary Design Study**

Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$20,000
Less: Peggy's Cove Water and Sewer Servicing: Options Evaluation and Preliminary Design Study	<u>\$17,677</u>
Balance of Account	\$ 2,323

**Account No. CCV00672 District 22 Capital Funds:**

Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$ 5,000
Less: Peggy's Cove Water and Sewer Servicing: Options Evaluation and Preliminary Design Study	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Balance of Account	\$ 0

The estimate for the study was \$25,000. The balance of the funding in this account will be used for contingencies. Upon completion of the project, any remaining funds will be returned to the original sources (i.e. 80% to PCAP and 20% to the District 22 Capital Funds).

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation and represents an increase to the Capital Budget.

**ALTERNATIVES**

Council could choose to do nothing and leave Peggy's Cove water and sewer servicing in its current condition. However, staff does not recommend this option as the malfunctioning on-site sewage disposal systems and poor well water quality present a potential impact on public health.



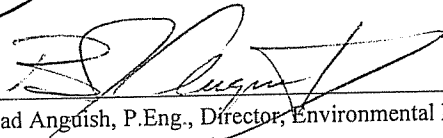
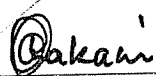

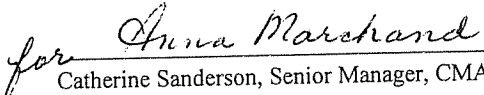
Council could reject the offer of \$20,000 from PCAP as well as the \$5,000 offer from the District 22 Capital Funds which would leave the project unfunded. Staff does not recommend this.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Letter from Richard Hurlburt, Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, to Mayor Peter Kelly, received April 7, 2006 confirming PCAP funding contribution.
2. Detailed Consultant Evaluation form
3. Halifax Regional Municipality, Regional Council Minutes, October 18, 2006

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Report Prepared by:	Barbara MacLean, P.Eng., Environmental Engineer, EES at 490-3685 
Report Approved By:	 John Sheppard, P.Eng. Manager, Environmental Engineering Services at 490-6958
Report Approved By:	 Brad Anguish, P.Eng., Director, Environmental Management Services at 490-4825
Financial Review:	 Ferdinand Makani, MBA, CMA, Financial Consultant at 490-6902
Procurement Review:	 Anne Feist, Operations Manager, Procurement at 490-4200
Report Approved by:	for  Catherine Sanderson, Senior Manager, CMA, Financial Services at 490-1562

# Attachment 1

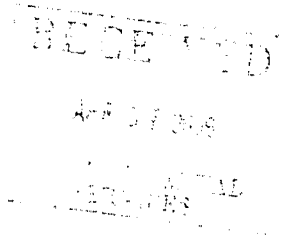


Service Nova Scotia  
and Municipal Relations  
Office of the Minister

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Our File Number:



Mr. Peter J. Kelly  
Mayor  
Halifax Regional Municipality  
1841 Argyle Street  
PO Box 1749  
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

Dear Mayor Kelly:

Re: Peggy's Cove Services Plan  
- Request for Provincial Capital Assistance Funding

Thank you for your recent letter requesting funding assistance to develop a plan for the provision of water and sewer services to the Peggy's Cove area.

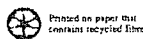
I am pleased to inform you that the Department of Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations will contribute to the cost of hiring a consultant to develop a concept plan for providing water and sewer services for Peggy's Cove. In light of the extreme ground conditions and the importance of the area to the provincial tourism industry, SNSMR will provide 80% of the cost up to a maximum contribution of \$20,000.

Marvin MacDonald, Director of Grants and Programs will be in contact with HRM staff to discuss the details of this funding offer. Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Marvin MacDonald at 424-3858.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Hurlburt

cc Halifax Regional Council  
Councillor Reg Rankin  
Dan English  
John Sheppard  
Charles Lloyd ✓  
Sandy Cameron  
Jamie Hannam  
Kellian Dean  
Marsha Andrews  
Bob Book



Printed on paper that  
contains recycled fibre

**Attachment 2**

**DETAILED EVALUATION**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Max Score</b>	<b>SNC LAVALIN</b>	<b>ABL Environmental</b>	<b>Land Design Engineering</b>
Expertise of Firm and Project Team	250	227	237	228
Methodology	550	446	515	452
Fee Schedule	150	120	150	150
Overall Proposal Quality & TOR Compliance	50	42	47	28
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>948</b>	<b>858</b>
<b>RANKING</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>COST (Excluding net HST)</b>		<b>\$25,800</b>	<b>\$21,925</b>	<b>\$21,925</b>

Attachment 3

**7.18      Councillor Rankin - October 11, 2005 Information Item #4, "Peggy's Cove Sewer and Water"**

**MOVED by Councillor Rankin, seconded by Councillor Meade, that staff be authorized to apply to the Province requesting consideration be given to developing a concept plan to identify solutions for the improvement and provision of sewer and water in the Peggy's Cove community.**

Councillor Rankin noted, for the record, that the district capital grant could provide some funds if needed for Provincial participation.