PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

REPORT

To: Chair and Directors Report Number: ENV-BRD-296

From: Environmental Services Date: September 10, 2026

Subject: Contract Award – RFP 22-2026 Potable Water Source Feasibility Assessment-North Peace Park, Stoddart Creek

RECOMMENDATION: *[Corporate Weighted]*

That the Regional Board award RFP 22-2026 "Potable Water Source Feasibility Assessment – North Peace Park, Stoddart Creek" to McElhanney Ltd, to investigate and assess North Peace Park and Stoddart Creek to determine their suitability as a future community potable water supply, a total cost of $90,000, further, that the Chair and Chief and Administrative Officer be authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the Peace River Regional District.

BACKGROUND/RATIONALE:

On June 25, 2026 the Regional Board passed the following resolutions:

> *MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED,*
> *That the Regional Board approve the 'North Peace Park Potable Water Feasibility' project charter which outlines the proposed methodology to implement the investigation at the North Peace Park for possible development of an Area B – Rose Prairie community water source.*
>
> *MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED,*
> *That the Regional Board approve the 'Stoddart Creek Potable Water Feasibility' project charter, which outlines the proposed methodology to implement the investigation of the opportunity for a future Area B – North Charlie Lake water source at the location of 14414 Stoddart Creek Road.*

The North Peace Park Potable Water Feasibility Project will assess the feasibility of developing a new potable water source at North Peace Park. The phased project includes hydrogeological investigations, drilling and testing of a new water well, evaluation of water quantity and quality, and assessment of compatibility with the existing Rose Prairie Water Station treatment equipment for potential re-use. The objective is to determine whether a viable, compliant, and sustainable potable water supply can be established to support future community water servicing and/or park operations.

The Stoddart Creek Potable Water Feasibility Project will assess the feasibility of acquiring and utilizing an existing water source located at 14414 Stoddart Creek Road to provide potable water options for residents in the Montney and North Charlie Lake area of Electoral Area B. The assessment will evaluate source reliability, water quality, infrastructure condition, regulatory requirements, operational considerations, and financial viability to determine whether the source can sustainably support current and future community water demands.

To align with the milestones identified in the approved project charters (as provided in the externally linked reports), staff proceeded with procurement of the feasibility assessments. Request for Proposal 22-2026 – Potable Water Source Feasibility Assessment – North Peace Park & Stoddart Creek was issued on July 17, 2026, and closed on August 13, 2026.

Three submissions were received and evaluated in accordance with the criteria outlined in the RFP. McElhanney Ltd. received the highest overall score and submitted pricing within the approved project budget.

Table 1. Scoring Matrix for Qualified Bidders for RFP 22-2026 Potable Water Source Feasibility Assessments – North Peace Park & Stoddart Creek

	Western Water Associates Ltd.	McElhanney Ltd	WSP Canada Inc.
Mandatory Requirements			
All Mandatory Requirements Provided	✓	✓	✓
Scoring Matrix Results			
Non-Pricing Evaluation (70%)	39.85	54.25	53.75
PRICING (30%)	30.00	19.19	15.86
Total Score	**69.85**	**73.44**	**69.61**

Based on the evaluation results and their competitive pricing, staff recommend awarding RFP 22-2026 Potable Water Source Feasibility Assessments – North Peace Park & Stoddart Creek to McElhanney Ltd.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. That the Regional Board provide further direction.

STRATEGIC PLAN RELEVANCE:

☒ Asset and Infrastructure Management

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION(S):

The total budget for the two feasibility assessment projects is $400,000 funded through capital surplus carry-forward in Function 702 – Area B Potable Water, which has a total available balance of $1,619,093 in the 2026 Financial Plan.

Staff recommend awarding the feasibility assessments contract to McElhanney Ltd for a total contract value of up to $90,000, excluding applicable taxes. The contract amount is within the approved project budgets, and no additional funding is required at this time.

The combined project budgets are summarized in Table 2 below:

Table 2. Potable Water Source Feasibility Assessments Project Budget and Contract Award Values

Project	Approved Budget	Contract Award
North Peace Park – Potable Water Feasibility Assessment	$300,000	$60,000
Stoddart Creek – Potable Water Feasibility Assessment	$100,000	$30,000
Total	**$400,000**	**Up to $90,000**

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATION(S):

Staff will work with relevant stakeholders throughout the feasibility assessments to gather information, understand existing conditions and identify potential servicing considerations. McElhanney will coordinate with PRRD staff and relevant stakeholders as required during the assessment process.

The feasibility assessments are intended to provide a technical understanding of the potential for potable water supply at North Peace Park and the Stoddart Creek area. Findings and recommendations will be communicated to the Regional Board through the project reporting process and will help inform future decisions regarding potential water servicing options.

Stakeholders will be kept informed of key project milestones, onsite work activities and any significant findings as the work progresses. Updates will be made to the project page on the PRRD website as milestones are achieved.

OTHER CONSIDERATION(S):

The assessments may determine that potable water servicing is not technically or financially feasible. Completing the assessments will identify key constraints, options and potential costs to inform future decisions before further investment is made.

Following contract award, the consultant will complete the feasibility assessments and provide recommendations to staff. The results will be brought forward to the Regional Board for consideration before any further work or capital investment is undertaken.

External Link(s):

1. Electoral Area Directors Committee Recommendations from April 17, 2026 - Environmental Services – See Item 8.2 on the Regional Board Meeting Agenda dated April 30, 2026.
2. Electoral Area Directors Committee Recommendations from June 18, 2026 – See Item 8.2 on the Regional Board Agenda dated June 25, 2026.