

**WHATCOM COUNTY  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Elizabeth Kosa  
Interim Director**



**NATURAL RESOURCES**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Satpal Singh Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive, and The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council, collectively serving in their capacity as the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors.

**THROUGH:** Elizabeth Kosa, Interim Public Works Director

**FROM:** Gary Stoyka, Natural Resources Manager 

**DATE:** November 8, 2022

**RE:** **Contract for Services with Associated Earth Sciences, Inc.**

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**Requested Action**

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Executive, and the County Council, acting as the Flood Control Zone District Board of Supervisors, enter into an agreement between the Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District and Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. to prepare a study plan and install monitoring equipment for the quantification of the timing and magnitude of groundwater pumping on streamflow depletion at three study locations.

**Background and Purpose**

As part of the WRIA 1 Watershed Management Project, a hydrogeologic investigation is needed to quantify the impacts of groundwater pumping on stream flows in several locations within Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 1. This project supports long-running watershed planning activities in WRIA 1 and will be used to further refine the development of a numerical groundwater model. This work is being conducted in coordination with the Whatcom Groundwater Model Team, an ad hoc committee of the WRIA 1 Watershed Staff Team that is working to cooperatively to address regional water supply challenges. Member agencies include Whatcom County, Public Utility District No. 1 of Whatcom County, Lummi Nation, Nooksack Indian Tribe, City of Bellingham, Washington Department of Ecology, and the Ag Water Board.

The MRSC roster hydrogeology filter was applied; this generated a list from which five firms were selected based on experience in the study area and previous experience working with the member agencies. Only one response, from AESI, was received and determined to be responsive.

**Funding Amount and Source**

This contract in the amount of \$99,192.00, is fully funded through a grant from the Washington Department of Ecology. The FCZD has adequate budget authority in the 2022 budget for this contract.

Please contact Gary Stoyka at extension 6218, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this agreement.