

Exhibit C

Section 6: Fee Proposal

We will provide the services described above on a time and materials basis, with a **not-to-exceed base project fee of \$206,634**. This represents a nominal (~5 percent) increase over the 2023 Annual Report project costs, updated with revised labor rates and laboratory costs.

For prior annual report projects, the NCMA agencies have opted to include an 8 to 10 percent technical contingency fee in addition to the base cost of the project work. This potential fee, which will only be charged if directly requested and authorized by the TG, covers out-of-scope fees such as transducer replacement, unexpected and extra consultation related to the adjudication litigation, and any additional requested hydrogeologic investigations and analyses. For 2024, we have suggested a technical contingency fee of \$18,600 (approximately 9 percent of base project fee). **The total project cost, including base project fee of \$206,634 plus technical contingency fee of \$18,600, will not exceed \$225,234.**

We anticipate that annual reports for subsequent years would incorporate an identical scope to that provided herein, and that costs would likely increase with an expected escalator factor of approximately 4 percent per year to cover updated labor and laboratory costs. However, as in previous years, a specific proposed scope and fee will be generated for each calendar year based on the annual requests of the NCMA client agencies.

The following tables provide a cost breakdown by task, as well as details about associated expenses. Further details about our proposed fee are available upon request.

Description	GSI Labor	GEI Labor	Expenses	Total
Task 1.1: Groundwater Monitoring and Report Schedule	\$772	\$0	\$0	\$772
Task 1.2: Meetings	\$34,944	\$3,300	\$335	\$38,579
Task 1.3: Groundwater Monitoring and Water Quality Sampling	\$52,584	\$0	\$30,264 ²	\$82,848
Task 1.4: Groundwater Data Analysis	\$18,585	\$0	\$0	\$18,585
Task 1.5: Hydrologic Data Compilation	\$4,463	\$5,500	\$0	\$9,963
Task 1.6: Water Demand and Availability Analysis	\$9,219	\$7,700	\$0	\$16,919
Task 1.7: Annual Report Preparation	\$29,705	\$3,300	\$0	\$33,005
Task 1.8: DWR Reporting	\$5,964	\$0	\$0	\$5,964
Subtotal	\$156,235	\$19,800	\$30,599	\$206,634
Technical Contingency Fee				\$18,600
Total Project Cost				\$225,234

Expense Details Per Task				
Task	Expenses	Rate	Quantity	Total
Task 1.2	Mileage	\$0.67/mile	500	\$335
Task 1.3	Water Quality Analysis	\$6,050/event	4	\$24,200 (includes 10% markup)
	Truck	\$165/day	12	\$1,980 (includes 10% markup)
	Mileage	\$0.67/mile	1,170	\$784
	Generator and Pump Rental	\$825/event	4	\$3,300 (includes 10% markup)
			Total:	\$30,599

Note: No other tasks have associated expenses.

² This value includes four quarters of field equipment expenses and analytical laboratory costs.

GSI Labor Classification	Rate	Total Est. Labor Hours
Principal (Dave O’Rourke; Principal in Charge)	\$305	95
Managing (Mike McAlpin; Project Manager)	\$215	252
Project (Erik Tobin; Field Support)	\$170	40
Staff (Sydney Robertson; Field Lead)	\$150	364
Technical Editing	\$140	16
GIS/Graphics	\$125	16
Administration	\$125	8

The cost of the work will be prorated among the NCMA group pursuant to the normal cost sharing agreement based on the fraction of groundwater allocation. The pro-rata basis for project fee cost-sharing is shown below:

	Base Project Fee	Contingency Fee	Total Project Fee (incl. contingency)	Fraction
Arroyo Grande	\$64,057	\$5,766	\$69,823	0.31
Grover Beach	\$66,123	\$5,952	\$72,075	0.32
Oceano CSD	\$43,393	\$3,906	\$47,299	0.21
Pismo Beach	\$33,061	\$2,976	\$36,037	0.16
Total	\$206,634	\$18,600	\$225,234	1.00



Water Solutions, Inc.

October 15, 2024

Michael Steele, PE
Northern Cities Management Area Technical Group
Submitted via email to msteele@wsc-inc.com

Re: Request for Revisions to GSI’s Proposal to Complete the Northern Cities Management Area 2024–2026 Annual Monitoring Reports

Dear Michael:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide clarification to our proposal dated September 13, 2024. Below is a table with the total costs associated with completing the 2024–2026 annual reports for the Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA) Technical Group (TG). The proposed fees include an annual escalation of 4 percent. Note the costs shown represent a maximum amount that will not be exceeded without written authorization from the NCMA TG.

Reporting Year	Agency	Base Project Fee	Contingency Fee	Total Project Fee (incl. contingency)	Fraction
2024	Arroyo Grande	\$64,057	\$5,766	\$69,823	0.31
	Grover Beach	\$66,123	\$5,952	\$72,075	0.32
	Oceano CSD	\$43,393	\$3,906	\$47,299	0.21
	Pismo Beach	\$33,061	\$2,976	\$36,037	0.16
	Total	\$206,634	\$18,600	\$225,234	1.00
2025	Arroyo Grande	\$66,619	\$5,997	\$72,616	0.31
	Grover Beach	\$68,768	\$6,190	\$74,958	0.32
	Oceano CSD	\$45,129	\$4,062	\$49,191	0.21
	Pismo Beach	\$34,383	\$3,095	\$37,478	0.16
	Total	\$214,899	\$19,344	\$234,243	1.00
2026	Arroyo Grande	\$69,284	\$6,237	\$75,521	0.31
	Grover Beach	\$71,519	\$6,438	\$77,956	0.32
	Oceano CSD	\$46,934	\$4,225	\$51,159	0.21
	Pismo Beach	\$35,759	\$3,219	\$38,978	0.16
	Total	\$223,495	\$20,118	\$243,613	1.00