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JUL 12 2019

COUNTY JUDGE

July 1, 2019

Honorable Richard Cortez
Hidalgo County Judge 302 W.
University Dr.
Edinburg, TX 78539

Re: El Morillo Drain Maintenance Contribution- Fiscal Year 2018 (October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018)

Dear Judge Cortez,

Hidalgo County, along with Cameron and Willacy County has been providing its pro-rata share of the local match funding of the operation and maintenance cost for the El Morillo Drain. The proration is based on a split of 45% for Cameron County, 45% for Hidalgo County and 10% for Willacy County.

The El Morillo Drain is a project that diverts inflow in the Rio Grande River at a point in Mexico northwest of Reynosa which is across the river from Anzaldua's Park. The drain runs through Reynosa and out to the Gulf of Mexico via a system of open ditches, canals and underground pipelines. The water that is diverted is of very poor quality, and essentially if allowed to drain into the river would make downstream water unusable for irrigation or other purposes.

The drain is operated by the International Boundary and Water Commission - United States and Mexico (USIBWC). The drain was complete in 1969. The portion of the U.S. section of the river was the responsibility of the Lower Rio Grande Water Committee (a non-profit with local citizens primarily from the Agriculture community on the board). The law providing for the joint operation of the drain provided for a local match obligation for the O&M of the drain (PL89-584). The Committee sought the financial assistance of the three counties for the provision of the local match. The Commissioner's Court adopted a resolution in 1972 appointing the Committee as the County point of contact with the USIBWC and provided its portion of the local O&M match.

The Rio Grande Regional Water Authority (RGRWA), a state created entity, by agreement with the Committee took over the Committee's position relating to the drain in 2008. The Commissioner's Court recognized the transfer of the responsibility from the Committee to the RGRWA. The Commissioner's Court in such recognition agreed to continue the contribution to the O&M of the U.S. section of the drain.

Based on the foregoing, I have enclosed an invoice for the County's portion of the M&O funding. I have also enclosed a copy of the letter from the USIBWC relating to the request for payment. I apologize for the delay in getting this request to you relating to the USIBWC letter, however we had asked for a breakdown of the invoice amounts from the USIBWC before we invoiced the counties. We have now determined that the invoiced amount is appropriate. If you have questions, please call me at your convenience. I am available to present this item to the Commissioner's Court if you find that necessary. I have attached the RGRWA invoice for fiscal year 2018. This invoice is payable presently. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Thank you,

James Darling (handwritten signature)

Jim Darling, General Manager - RGRWA

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COUNTY AUDITOR

FOR THE RIVER - FOR THE FUTURE

Administrative Agent: Rio Grande Valley Partnership
P.O. Box 1499 • Weslaco, TX 78599
Telephone: (956) 968-3141 • Fax: (956) 968-0210

ATTACHMENT I
RIO GRANDE REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY ESTIMATED FY 2018 COSTS

CONTRACT NO.	PRIORITY (WORK PLAN)	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	U.S. SECTION'S COST	RGRWA COST (50%)
MINUTE 223				
Projected Electrical Costs	N/A	FY 2018 (October 1 to September 30)	\$ 43,101.84	\$ 21,550.92
Projected O&M Costs	N/A	FY 2018 (October 1 to September 30)	\$ 68,564.82	\$ 34,282.41
MINUTE 303 Emergency Work and Planned Work				
CILA-REY/AD/01/18	1	EMERGENCY WORK TO PERFORM MAINTENANCE ON PUMPS 1, 3, AND 4; REPAIR MOTORS ON PUMPS 1 AND 4, REVIEW THE MOTOR ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, VERIFICATION OF THE MECHANICAL CONDITIONS OF PUMPS 1 AND 4, AND RELOCATION OF THE MOTOR FROM PUMPS NO. 3 TO PUMP NO. 4 TO ENABLE SHORT-TERM OPERATION OF THE LATTER AND TO PERFORM MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL TESTS ON THE PUMPS AND MOTORS, AS WELL AS THE POWER AND CONTROL SYSTEM.	\$ 18,805.22	\$ 9,402.61
MINUTE 303 FY 2018 WORK PLAN				
CILA-REY-INV-03/18	2	Modernization of capacitor bank of pumps to provide a solution to the problem that exists with the power factor of Comision Federal de Electricidad (CFE).	\$ 50,651.63	\$ 25,325.82
	6	Modernization of electrical panels for the 4 pumps of the pumping station		
	7	Modernization and distribution of interior and exterior lighting, and lighting control.		
CILA-REY-AD-07/18	9	Oil change for motors of four (4) pumps	\$ 8,313.87	\$ 4,156.93
	3	Maintenance of diversion structure radial gate		
	11	General maintenance pump intakes trash grills		
CILA-REY-INV-01/18	12	Brush clearing of diversion channel slopes and right-of-way at the following sections: KM 00+130 to KM 06+607, KM 07+263 to KM 13+800, and KM 17+600 to KM 39+800	\$ 69,213.30	\$ 34,606.65
	13	Rehabilitation of berms at the following diversion channel sections: KM 20+200 to KM 20+400, KM 21+00 to KM 21+800, and 25+100 to 25+150		
	16	Desilting of diversion channel at the following sections: KM 0+130 to KM 03+800		
CILA-REY-AD-06/18	4	Concrete block wall for security	\$ 25,307.47	\$ 12,653.73
CILA-JRZ-INV-02/18	FY 19 - 4	Maintenance of siphon structures located along the Morillo Diversion Canal at the Reynosa-Matamoros Highway at KM 30+200	\$ 81,671.01	\$ 40,835.51
	17	CILA-JRZ-INV-02/18 Desilting and trash removal from siphons and underground pipes at the following crossings between: KM 03+800 to KM 13+800, KM 17+600 to KM 39+800 (Desilting and trash removal from siphons at El Anhelito (km 19+500) and road E-105 (km 31+823), including underground pipes at viaduct crossing Luis D. Colosio (KM 22+400) and Highway Reynosa/Matamoros (KM 30+250) 31+823), así como de las alcantarillas de cruce de la vialidad Luis D. Colosio (km 22+400) y la Carretera Reynosa/Matamoros (km 30+250)		
MINUTE 303 FY 2018 PROPOSED PROJECTS TO IMPROVE THE CAPACITY OF THE CHANNEL				
CILA-JRZ-INV-01/18	NEW	Proposed Study by Mexico "Executive Project for the Comprehensive Study of the Morillo Drain Saline Waters Bypass System"	\$ 105,961.68	\$ 52,980.84
TOTAL			\$ 471,590.84	\$ 235,795.42



INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION
UNITED STATES AND MEXICO
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE DIVISION

June 21, 2019

Mr. James E. Darling, President
Rio Grande Regional Water Authority
P.O. Box 1499
Weslaco, Texas 78599

Dear Mr. Darling:

I refer to Contract No. IBM-09-A004, dated March 4, 2009 between the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC), and the Rio Grande Regional Water Authority (RGRWA), where the RGRWA is to pay one-half of the Morillo Drain Operation and Maintenance (O&M) cost allocated to the U.S. Section. The Morillo Drain conveyance channel was constructed in Mexico, and is operated by Mexico for the discharge of saline water into Morillo and other drains in Mexico. Regular operations, maintenance, and improvements costs of the conveyance system are incurred annually.

The expenditures for the Morillo Drain during the 2018 Fiscal Year (October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018) is \$943,181.68. The USIBWC is responsible for 50% of the share cost to Mexico as per Minute No. 223 and Minute No. 303, dated November 30, 1965 and May 15, 2000, respectively. The breakdown of the said amount is given in Attachment I. This amount equates to \$471,590.84. RGRWA is responsible for reimbursing the U.S. Section for 50% of the U.S. costs or \$235,795.42.

As stipulated in Contract No. IBM-09-A004, I'm requesting a total payment in the amount of **\$235,795.42** for the Morillo Drain O&M costs from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018. In accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulations, please make payment by check or money order to the United States Section, International Boundary and Water Commission on or before November 1, 2019.

If you have any questions please contact Lorena Soriano at 915-832-4164.

Sincerely,

Daniel Avila, P.E.
Principal Engineer
Operations Department

Attachment:
As stated