

**Sent Electronically to [sonya.collins@glwater.org](mailto:sonya.collins@glwater.org).**

July 22, 2025

Ms. Sonya Collins  
Procurement Director  
Great Lakes Water Authority  
735 Randolph St.  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Re: GLWA Req. No. 0000030  
Fuel Tank Maintenance Services

Dear Ms. Collins:

This will address the captioned item, which we notice is included on the New Business Consent Item portion of the Agenda for the GLWA Board of Directors' meeting tomorrow, July 23, 2025. Phoenix Environmental, Inc. ("PE") has appreciated the opportunity to provide fuel tank maintenance services since 2020, and desires to continue providing services going forward. To that end, PE continues to strongly object to and protest the award of a contract to Technical Service Professionals, LLC d/b/a TSP Environmental ("TSP").

The history of this item has been characterized by irregularities and we believe violations, in the bid process and related matters. First, GLWA has violated the FOIA, as follows. On May 12, 2025, two FOIA requests were submitted by PE to the GLWA, but to date, only one has received a lawful reply. The request at issue specified:

1. Copies of TSP Services, Inc.'s ("TSP") bid response, with all exhibits and attachments.
2. Copies of TSP's responses to Sean Hallock's email of May 2, 2025, with all exhibits and attachments.
3. Copies of any written communications between GLWA and TSP Services, Inc. (TSP) from January 1, 2025 to present.

On June 30, 2025, the FOIA Coordinator indicated in an email:

As previously advised, your FOIA request to the Great Lakes Water Authority has been granted in part and denied in part. **Please be advised that the documents that will be produced pursuant to you request will now be produced on or before July 24, 2025.**

On July 7, 2025, I replied by email:

**That would place the date of providing the documents outside of any extension allowed by statute, and therefore untimely,** and of reduced potential relevance because after the board meeting. Respectfully, any responsive documents should be supplied now.

This renewed request was ignored, and therefore the response time mandates of the FOIA have been violated. Further, In the absence of receiving the specified documents, PE has been severely prejudiced in its ability to submit documentary evidence in support of its positions herein, and is reduced to a discussion mostly on an "information and belief" basis.

Second, PE continues to assert that TSP has not satisfied the requirements of the Procurement Solicitation of January 31, 2025. Specifically, Section 2 Minimum Qualifications, b iii and II are not met, in that TSP does not, and will not, have the necessary certifications by EJ Ward, see EJ Ward letter of July 22, 2025, enclosed, and other certifications as well, and it does not have the required three years of similar experience.

Third, to the extent TSP has attempted to satisfy this requirement through sub-contractors, that brings other violations into play. The Procurement Solicitation did not authorize that the certification requirements could be met by sub-contractors. We notice that the Procurement Report lists R. W. Mercer, IBB Petroleum Services and Leak Petroleum Equipment as sub-contractors, but they do not possess EJ Ward certification either, per the July 22, 2025 letter enclosed, and perhaps other certifications as well.

Further, the Award Determination Letter to TSP was issued on April 24, 2025. Section 6.3 of the Procurement Solicitation requires:

Subsequent to the vendor's submission of its response to this solicitation, the vendor shall not add...any designated subcontractor unless vendor (i) gives written notice to GLWA within ten (10) business days of receipt of an "Award Determination Letter" and (ii) provides all information requested by GLWA.

The way this bid process has played out, it is strongly believed that TSP did not comply with this requirement months ago either.

On the basis of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that a contract to TSP should not be approved by the Board of Directors tomorrow, and that this matter be re-bid. We trust that copies of this letter will be supplied to Board members and necessary staff as well. Thank you.  
Sincerely Yours:

Phoenix Environmental, Inc.  
By: Davis Smith  
Its: Board Member



Phoenix Environmental, Inc.  
12815 Premier Center Court  
Plymouth MI 48170  
United States

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to confirm that as of the date of this letter the following companies are not trained or certified to install, service, or support E.J. Ward equipment in the state of Michigan:

- R.W. Mercer
- IBB Petroleum Services
- Leak Petroleum
- Technical Services Professionals, LLC (TSP)

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or to verify certification status.

*Chad Foreback*

Chad Foreback  
Director of Operations

July 22, 2025

Date