



## THE CITY OF KEY WEST

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**TO:** Jim Scholl, City Manager  
Greg Veliz, Asst. City Manager

**FROM:** John Paul Castro, Utilities Director

**DATE:** March 18, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Approving the Purchase of a Rockwell Variable Frequency Drive from Rexel for the Richard A. Heyman Environmental Pollution Control Facility Deep Injection Well Pump

**Action Statement:**

This is a request to waive formal competitive procurement and approve the purchase of one Rockwell Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) from Rexel for the Richard A. Heyman Environmental Protection Facility pursuant to code of ordinance Sec. 2-797(1), Sole Source Procurement in the amount of \$53,706.00

**Background:**

The City of Key West's Richard A. Heyman Environmental Pollution Control Facility operates two deep injection wells for wastewater. The treated effluent is pumped into two deep wells which are controlled by VFD's. The VFD's control the pumps for the plant effluent and vary the pump output by changing power due to plant influent flow.

The VFD's extend the life of the pumps and reduce costs due to energy savings and lowered maintenance costs.

**Purpose and Justification:**

The current VFD's were installed with the treatment plant upgrade in 1997. The aging control system has undergone many attempts to trouble shoot and repair the individual components without success.

The individual components of the drive are no longer in production and only available through liquidated service companies that do not provide warranty. This route would be extremely costly without guarantee of repair.

Replacing the drive for the VFD is the most cost effective route of repair as it is the

***Key to the Caribbean - Average yearly temperature 77 ° F.***

only component that has failed. While this requires a sole source purchase it is exponentially cheaper than purchasing and entire VFD system that would require a contractor to install. The Rockwell drive is a direct replacement and the only brand that is plug and play with the current system. Rexel is the distributor for the drive in our area.

Two other VFD drive component and complete VFD prices were included for price comparison. Staff finds the sole source price fair and reasonable. The necessary component is also cheaper than the equivalent component of the other brands.

Section 2-797(1) of the City of Key West Code of Ordinances, Sole source procurement, allows for...  
“A contract may be awarded without competition when the department head makes a written determination... after conducting a good faith review of available sources, there is only one source for the required commodity or contractual service.”

**Financial Impact:**

The \$53,706.00 repair cost will be charged to sewer budget line item 401-3503-535-46. Within this fund, there is a line item intended to be used for miscellaneous sewer projects that include emergency repair projects such as this. There are sufficient funds available within this line item to accommodate the repair.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends option approving the purchase of one Rockwell VFD drive from Rexel in amount of \$53,706.00 as the price is fair and reasonable.