

December 3, 2018
Kearney, Nebraska



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Mr. David Lathrop
Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 98922
Lincoln, NE 68509-8922

Re: Kearney, Nebraska
Solids Handling Facility – Phase I
Project No. 130-D1-082

Dear Mr. Lathrop:

The City of Kearney would like to apply for a project waiver pursuant to the “American Iron and Steel” (AIS) requirements for the purchase and installation of a double check valve for use in the above-mentioned project, located in Kearney, Nebraska.

Per AIS Requirements, SRF assistance recipients are required to use specific domestic iron and steel products that are produced in the United States; however, the recipients may receive a waiver if certain circumstances are met. For this project, we are requesting a waiver pursuant to Condition No. 2 *“Iron and steel products are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities and of a satisfactory quality”*.

This project requires one (1) double check valve be installed within a sludge dewatering building to prevent cross contamination of water being supplied by the City’s municipal system. The use of backflow prevention (double check valve) is common practice when protecting water from one water system to another and is a requirement of the City. The installation of the double check valve assembly is integral to providing the building with a protected water supply source. The project specifies the double check valve as follows:

1. Double check valve assembly designed to prevent the backflow of water into the system.
2. Shall be flanged, lead free modular check valve assembly with center stem guiding. Each check module shall have a captured spring and be accessible through a bolted cover plate. Seats shall be stainless steel and replaceable. The assembly shall be provided with two identical check modules. Isolation valves shall not be included with the check valve assembly package. Isolation will be provided as shown on the Drawings.
3. Valve interiors and exteriors shall be coated with an NSF/ANSI 61 certified fusion bonded epoxy.
4. Valve shall meet the requirements of AWWA C510.

5. Pressure Rating: Working pressure up to 175 psig.
6. Size as shown on the Drawings.
7. Shall be Watts Series LF709 or pre-approved equal.

The specified double check valve manufacturer, Watts, has indicated they cannot meet the requirements to certify their valves as being AIS compliant. In addition, the Contractor's supplier contacted several double check valve manufacturers and found that none of them manufacture an AIS compliant product. The following double check valve manufacturers were contacted: FEBCO, Ames, Hersey, Wilkins, and Flomatic.

The supplier for this project is Fortiline Waterworks, located at 7025 Northwinds Drive NW, Concord, NC 28027. Frontline Waterworks has contacted the double check valve manufacturers listed previously and they either do not manufacture an AIS compliant double check valve, do not manufacture double check valves anymore, or they are out of business. Through all these research efforts we have determined that an AIS compliant double check valve cannot be found.

Based on this information, we are requesting that the originally specified Watts double check valve be allowed for this project. If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact me at 308-234-6456 or cmiller@miller-engineers.com. Thank you for your review and consideration.

Sincerely,
MILLER & ASSOCIATES
CONSULTING ENGINEERS, P.C.



Chris A. Miller, P.E.

CAM/jh

Cc: Anton Jelinek, City of Kearney
Chris Thurlow, Walters-Morgan Construction