

REGION OF OTTAWA-CARLETON  
 RÉGION D'OTTAWA-CARLETON

MEMORANDUM  
 NOTE DE SERVICE

Our File/N/Réf.           **50** 01-98-1249-AA

DATE                       04 January 1999

TO/DEST.                 The Chair and Members of Council

FROM/EXP.               Acting Deputy Commissioner  
 Environment and Transportation Department

SUBJECT/OBJET           **EMERGENCY REPAIR OF 4TH FLOOR THICKENING AND  
 DEWATERING OVERHEAD TROLLEY CRANE  
 (IN ACCORDANCE WITH *CORPORATE POLICY MANUAL*  
 SECTION 4.6.9)**

INTRODUCTION

Occasionally, the Department is faced with an urgent requirement and is unable to meet the standard report routing process to Committee. Section 4.6.9 of the Corporate Policy Manual addresses such situations. The Water Environment Protection Division (WEPD) recently followed this section of the *Corporate Policy Manual*.

BACKGROUND

The fourth floor of the Thickening and Dewatering Building at the Robert O. Pickard Environmental Centre is where the final treatment of the wastewater solids occurs. Centrifuges spin digested solids to produce a thickened, then a dewatered biosolid product. There are thirteen (13) centrifuges on the fourth floor, each weighing approximately five tonnes and costing more than a million dollars each. The repair and maintenance is conducted daily on the centrifuges and these tasks must be completed quickly and carefully. The overhead trolley crane is indispensable in ensuring that the maintenance and repairs on the centrifuges can be completed safely.

On 12 November 1998, an operator of the trolley crane noted that the unit did not appear to be performing correctly. Corbet & Corbet Inc. were contacted immediately to inspect the unit and recommend remedial action. Their inspection identified several serious safety hazards, and the seven-tonne unit was locked out of service. An immediate need for the unit to be repaired was identified in order to return the device to service.

**INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY DISTRIBUTED**  
 TO BE LISTED ON CORPORATE  
 SERVICES AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
 COMMITTEE AGENDA - 19 Jan 99

## DISCUSSION

Corbet & Corbet Inc. is the contractor used by WEPD when certified repairs are required on critical hoisting equipment. The urgency of the situation and the need for an immediate resolution to the problem made Corbet & Corbet Inc. the most likely candidate to conduct the repairs and recertify the device. They are familiar with the site's hoisting equipment, are one of the few certified hoisting repair companies in southeastern Ontario, and have provided excellent service in the past. Their inspection revealed major problems with the bridge and main runway of the crane. The repairs required replacement of 180 feet of damaged trolley rail, the replacement of all trolley wheels and the associated bearings and seals on the unit. In addition, a slight warp of the main bridge was corrected. The necessary work was completed on Tuesday, 15 December 1998. The cost of this work was \$134,526.

## CONSULTATION

The public consultation process is not applicable.

## ALTERNATIVES

Under the circumstances, because of the essential nature of the centrifuge equipment and the critical need for the hoisting equipment to be readily available at all times, it was necessary to perform the repairs immediately.

## EXPENDITURE JUSTIFICATION

The overhead crane on the fourth floor of the Thickening and Dewatering Building is an essential device which is used to ensure the timely maintenance, repair and return to service of the wastewater treatment equipment. In order to prevent a problem in the overall operation of the solids portion of the treatment process, it was imperative that the repair and recertification of the overhead crane be done immediately and the unit be returned to service in accordance with the references listed below.

References :     The *Occupational Health & Safety Act*,  
                  Industrial Establishment Regulation 851; section 51,  
                  CSA Standard B167-96/Safety Standards for Maintenance and Inspection of  
                  Overhead Cranes, Gantry Cranes, Monorails, Hoists and Trolleys.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The cost of this work will come out of the 1998 Operating Budget, Account No. 252-42412-2435, Buildings & Grounds - Repairs & Maintenance.

*Approved by  
Nancy B. Schepers, P.Eng.*

DM/ls

FINANCE DEPARTMENT COMMENT

Funds were available as indicated.

*Approved by T. Fedec  
on behalf of the Finance Commissioner*