

Department of Port Control

Ordinance No.: 1038-2022

Section: Field Maintenance

Executive Summary

The Department of Port Control (“Department”) is requesting authority to amend contract MA RC2019-87 with Nachurs Alpine Solutions, LLC to provide Alpine RF-11 (potassium acetate) and Sodium Formate at a recalculated price.

Background/Purpose:

The Department of Port Control is required to maintain all taxiways and runways free and clear of accumulations of snow and ice during the winter season. To ensure these safe operations the chemicals Alpine RF- 11 (Potassium Acetate) and Sodium Formate are used for deicing purposes. The two raw materials used to produce Alpine RF-11, potassium hydroxide (KOH) and acetic acid (GAA), costs have increased considerably this past year. Potassium hydroxide comes from the electrolysis of potassium chloride (potash), the demand and cost have soared in North America due to high crop prices, and also due to international sanctions preventing the sale of potash from Belarus. The Department of Port Control is requesting authority to amend contract MA RC2019-87 with Nachurs Alpine Solutions to provide Alpine RF-11 (potassium acetate) and Sodium Formate at a recalculated price now and every six months, due to the high raw material cost increases, limited supply of raw materials, the freight market, and interruption of supply from the North America supply base. The recalculated prices are based upon data sourced from Tecnon OrbiChem and HIS Markit.

Justification:

Alpine RF and Sodium Formate are deicing chemicals that are a necessity for the safety and operation of the airfield during the winter season. Nachurs Alpine Solutions cannot continue to provide these chemicals at the current contract price as it is not sustainable. The Department of Port Control has one year remaining on this contract, the Department will be going out for bid in 2023 for a new contract for deicing chemicals.