



DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Ruth Anne Hall
Purchasing Agent

Date: April 24, 2020

FR: Austin McFarlane
Interim Director

RE: **Sole Source for Quality Liquid Feeds**

Lake County owns and operates three wastewater reclamation facilities (Des Plaines River, New Century Town, and Mill Creek). Quality Liquid Feeds currently supplies each of these treatment plant with molasses. The molasses is used in the treatment process as a carbon source to sustain the biological nutrient removal (BNR) process. The BNR process is used to remove total phosphorus from the plant's discharge.

The removal of total phosphorus and achieving the limit of ≤ 1.0 ppm in the final plant's discharge are conditions defined in the IEPA permit currently held by each facility. This is a product that we have been using for over five years and have had good success with the outcome. It is safe and had no negative impact on the plant's internal process or discharge.

Initially, this product was in use at the Mill Creek facility but with the recent development and completion of the Biological Nutrient Removal process at the Des Plaines River and New Century Town facilities, there is a need to extend and include the use of this product at these facilities as well. Consequently, our usage and cost for this product has increased.

As Quality Liquid Feeds is the sole source provider of molasses that is used as a carbon source for the biological nutrient process at these facilities and that no other reasonable material is available to the department, it is our recommendation that bid exemption be given to this vendor.