

# Staff Report

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Adrian Schneider, P.E., Senior Engineer  
Doug Roderick, P.E., Director of Engineering

**DATE:** August 23, 2023

**SUBJECT:** **Combie South Powerhouse Access Road Project (Project #6943)**  
**(Consent)**

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## ***ENGINEERING***

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve a change order to the construction contract with Hansen Bros. Enterprises (HBE) in the amount of \$43,098.00.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The existing access road to the Combie South Powerhouse crosses through four properties with numerous gates, is steep, narrow, and in poor repair, and the existing easements do not allow for the necessary road improvements to be made. In 2016 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) directed the District to “consider improving access to the south side of the dam during emergency conditions.” The existing access road and its easement limitations led the District to identify four alternative routes to access the powerhouse. In 2020, following numerous public meetings and NID committee meetings, the District chose one of four alternatives for improved access to the powerhouse (Alternative 2). The chosen alternative is a shorter distance than the existing access road and utilizes an old abandoned access path. The alternative access road crosses only two properties.

Due to changes to the procurement policy, staff requested that the Board approve a contract contingency amount of \$35,000 at the same time as the award of the contract. This contingency is for possible unforeseen site conditions, such as rock excavation, or other additions that came up once construction started. The Board approved the contract in the amount of \$198,368 and the requested contingency.

During construction, unforeseen conditions and other additions did arise, such as unforeseen rock, the District's decision to pave an additional 675 feet to the end of the road (not part of the original design plan and bid documents,) and the addition of solar powered infrastructure, key code and traffic loops for the operation of the main gate. These additions to the project exceed the approved contingency by \$8,098.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

The 2023 Hydro CIP Budget for this project (55112-52952-6943) is \$250,000. This contract, along with the contingency, and this change order total \$241,466, which is within the approved budgeted amount.

AS/DR

Attachments: None