



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor and Council Members

**From:** Greg Meszaros, Director, Austin Water Utility

**Date:** September 14, 2011

**Subject:** Ratification of Emergency Purchase – Matous Construction, \$604,231.91

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On August 24, 2011, I signed an emergency affidavit related to repairs that would be required following the chlorine release on August 23, 2011 at the South Austin Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. Chlorine gas is extremely corrosive to metals, as a result of the leak, controls systems and electric components were damaged. This ratification is for the emergency purchase with Matous Construction to establish blower operations for the treatment process in the amount of \$604,231.91.

The blowers provide adequate air to treat the wastewater and are necessary to ensure that all state and federal permits are met. The blower control room, located in the same building as the chlorine storage, was impacted by the chlorine gas leak. Matous Construction was able to provide two portable blowers, which allowed us to continue operations until the plant's blowers can be overhauled. The portable blowers will remain operational until the extent of the damage caused by the chlorine leak has been evaluated and the permanent repair has been completed.

Should you have any questions concerning this emergency purchase, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Greg Meszaros, Director  
Austin Water Utility

Cc: Marc A. Ott, City manager  
Rudy Garza, Assistant City Manager  
Byron Johnson, Purchasing Officer