
From: Thompson, Brian
Sent: 11 May 2007 12:27
To: Dolan, Alan
Cc: Pluse, David; Reynolds, Steve; Cluett, Chris
Subject: RE: Clean Water designer

Alan

Highways are providing support to the delivery of the project in respect of this trail on Utilities. This I recall was on the basis that Halcrow were underperforming. I also believe that to date that overall we have performed our services well. I first raised with Mike Jenkins, David Hutchinson and Jason Chandler last November that we needed to retrieve David Pluse back to Newcastle to grow our team and develop our NE highways business. David has remained honourable to the project beyond the point where most senior staff would have left the project and potentially the company, and despite my instructions to spend 3 -4 days per week in Newcastle. We have lost 4 highways staff from our business (out of 8) and are at risk of losing our entire capability unless David returns full time within the next couple of weeks.

The reason I feel it necessary to re-state this is that we are sacrificing the development of a key part of the Highways business for this project, so I do not wish to be questioned upon our commitment. Regarding responsibility for this particular issue, David and now I have suggested potential avenues which can be explored and David can pursue further to gauge if they are indeed the correct skills required and on any availability issues, however as part of the PB Project Management team, I believe that you have to take ownership in bringing the necessary argument and if required pressure to release those resources. We have no empowerment in that respect. I/we also have other Highway key delivery issues that require similar urgent attention.

I assume that there is a weakness in the MUDFA contract as I would have expected the appointed Contractor to have the responsibility to now directly liaise with the affected utility companies on the specifics of the intended alteration to their plant. Unless we have had the opportunity to excavate and expose plant at risk and put forward sufficiently detailed proposals to the Water Authority at an earlier stage, then providing an adequate, acceptable and deliverable solution in each location will be impossible. Alternatively, I would have expected the Water Authority to take responsibility for the detailed design (paid) as it is in their own interest that they maintain the quality and supply of their system.

Highways continue to support this project, but you need to take ownership of this issue and to resource the future management of the Utilities aspect of the commission. You have had the extended benefit of David's personal commitment towards the success of the project, but that will shortly expire.

I trust this makes the position clear.

No doubt David will also respond to bring you up to date on the results of any further details.

Regards

Brian

From: Dolan, Alan
Sent: 11 May 2007 09:33
To: Pluse, David; Reynolds, Steve
Cc: Thompson, Brian
Subject: FW: Clean Water designer

David,

I have stirred your nest, now follow through. Looks like your man is Jon Price or Jon Ralph.

Brian, chase these guys for urgent early dates to engage if u can. I know u are roads orientated but you guys took the commission and it is upto you to resource the scope. I will help where I can but I think after eight weeks of supposedly resorting we are looking dilatory here and we need to source a body fast. I would have thought by now we should have looked at outside sourcing. Be quick!

Alan

Regards

Alan Dolan
Deputy Project Manager
Edinburgh Tram Project

From: Kydd, Peter
Sent: 11 May 2007 01:07
To: Slocombe, Nick; Luscombe, David
Cc: Chandler, Jason; Reynolds, Steve; Gullick, David; Thompson, Brian; Dolan, Alan; Cluett, Chris
Subject: RE: Clean Water designer

Yes - Water Engineering is one of the core competencies within Environment - Jon Ralph and his team in Bristol are the people to contact. Resource availability will be the issue. One question though - is this distribution network design/modification - ie using STONER or similar - where I would suggest going to a local Scottish firm who will already have the models - or is it design details for approval where you are modifying the distribution system locally (but not affecting the network characteristics) in which case an engineer like Jon Price or Jon Ralph would be able to help.

Regards

Peter

PS - an easy way to find out who in PB does all these things is to go to the PBWORLD/EA web site - which, for all its deficiencies - will at least point you in the right direction - in this case typing water in the search engine would have pointed to a water and utilities page and Bob Bartindale as contact - Bob would have been able to point to Jon and his team as being the right people to contact. All these IT resources and we don't appear to be making best use of them - there must be a message for our busy project folk there!

From: Slocombe, Nick
Sent: Thu 10/05/2007 23:52
To: Kydd, Peter; Luscombe, David
Cc: Chandler, Jason; Reynolds, Steve; Gullick, David; Thompson, Brian; Dolan, Alan; Cluett, Chris
Subject: RE: Clean Water designer

Peter, David

Can either of you help with this? We are looking for a clean water system designer for Edinburgh Tram - see below.

Thanks

Nick

From: Thompson, Brian

Sent: 10 May 2007 21:29
To: Dolan, Alan
Cc: Chandler, Jason; Reynolds, Steve; Slocombe, Nick; Gullick, David
Subject: RE: Clean Water designer
Importance: High

Alan

We are Highways people, this skill is certainly not within our own discipline and I am sure David is doing his best to search internally for the appropriate person.

I am unsure without my own enquiries as to what skills we have within PB in respect of 'clean water design'. I have copied this response to other Highways Directors who have been with the business longer than I to request any guidance they can provide as to where this skill may lie within the UK. However I would normally have associated this skill with a group/team specialising in clean water supply/water treatment - depends on the issues being raised by the water authority?

If indeed the only resource available is that referred to in David's email to you and if he cannot be made available (perhaps pressure at a higher level?), then we should explore a specialist sub-consultant route? Has anyone discussed this with Halcrow as I would expect that this skill is in greater numbers within their organisation and potentially locally based.

I will feed back to you when I have received any useful information.

Nick/Dave any advice and guidance would be extremely welcome.

Regards

Brian

From: Dolan, Alan
Sent: 10 May 2007 17:46
To: Reynolds, Steve
Cc: Chandler, Jason; Thompson, Brian
Subject: FW: Clean Water designer

Steve,

I cannot believe in the whole of PB we cannot get a designer to complete a detail design for a clean water system (Valve sets/thrust blocks and duplicate routing etc.).

David has been trying to source this guy for some eight weeks. The Water Authority have given us clear indication of our requirements and since then David has struggled to find a designer. Following the commitment we gave to Mathew yesterday, I do not want to fall at the first hurdle because our DTL cannot find staff for his Team. Will you please bring this to the attention of Brian Thompson. This work is late and "End of June" is no where near. This is a failure from our Team and we have already received comments from the Water Authority regarding poor submission material. (This is the only one in some 3000 drawings so no need to panic...but I do not want any more).

Brian can you help???????????? Utilities exposure here is high so your guys are "in the frame". Lets not fall at the last hurdle. We need closure to your Teams' design..Now....It is not happening.

Alan

Regards

Alan Dolan
Deputy Project Manager
Edinburgh Tram Project

From: Pluse, David
Sent: 10 May 2007 15:34
To: Dolan, Alan
Subject: Clean Water designer

Alan,

Further to our previous conversation, the only resource I have been able to find is Barry Biggs, based in Godalming and employed by Building Services.

I spoke to Barry last week, with a follow-up call this Tuesday. Barry has advised me that he will be available to start work on the Edinburgh Line 2 Detailed Design at the end of June 2007.

He is unable to commit earlier due to ongoing commitments.

As discussed, perhaps the Ed Tram Management can decide with the Building Services business group whether Barry can be released any earlier.

Regards,
David Pluse
Regional Associate

PB
Amber Court
William Armstrong Drive
Newcastle Business Park
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 7YQ
Tel: +44(0) [REDACTED]
Fax: +44(0) [REDACTED]
Mob: +44(0) [REDACTED]