To: Chairman Smedberg and the VRE Operations Board

From: Doug Allen

Date: January 27, 2017

Re: Authorization to Issue an Invitation for Bids for the Purchase and Delivery of MP36 Locomotive Diesel Oxidation Catalyst Elements

Recommendation:

The VRE Operations Board is asked to authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue an Invitation for Bids (IFB) for the purchase and delivery of 40 diesel oxidation catalyst elements.

Background:

Invitation for Bids is the preferred and normal method of procurement suitable when seeking bids to provide goods and services at a firm-fixed price. This method is utilized when there is a complete, adequate, precise specification or purchase description. Award is made on the basis of price alone without discussions or negotiations with the Bidders.

The scope of work for the IFB includes a one-time delivery of 40 Diesel Oxidation Catalyst elements. Each of VRE’s MP36 locomotives are equipped with 2 Diesel Oxidation Catalyst (DOC) elements which control emissions by promoting chemical changes in the exhaust gas and turning them into less harmful components. The DOC is part of an emissions reduction system on the MP36 locomotives that enables them to meet the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Tier 2 Certifications. While DOC elements are removed yearly and cleaned with a pressure washer, over time, this cleaning causes the fins of the elements to bend,
thus reducing exhaust flow. As this cycle has been repeated for six years, VRE’s Mechanical Operations Manager recommends replacing the current stock. The total order of 40 will be substantial enough to replace all of the DOC elements in the fleet within the life-cycle maintenance program.

Upon receipt of the bids, staff will return to the Board to request authorization to award the contract.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Funding is provided through in the Equipment Asset Management Program which is funded through an annual allocation of FTA 5337 (State of Good Repair) grants.
Virginia Railway Express
Operations Board

Resolution
9C-01-2017

Authorization to Issue an Invitation for Bids for the Purchase and Delivery of MP36 Locomotive Diesel Oxidation Catalyst Elements

WHEREAS, each of VRE’s MP36 locomotives are equipped with Diesel Oxidation Catalyst (DOC) elements which control emissions; and,

WHEREAS, OSHA and EPA regulations prohibit locomotives from operating with damaged or improper functioning DOC units; and,

WHEREAS, the purchase of 40 DOC elements will be substantial enough to replace all of the DOCs in the fleet within VRE’s lifecycle maintenance program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the VRE Operations Board does hereby authorize the Chief Executive Officer to issue an Invitation for Bids for the purchase and delivery of 40 Diesel Oxidation Catalyst elements.

Approved this 27th day of January 2017

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Paul Smedberg
Chairman

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Katie Cristol
Secretary