

VA246-14-R-0317 A00001

General Notes/Changes

1.) The following Provision has been added to the Solicitation:

52.228-1 BID GUARANTEE (SEP 1996)

- (a) Failure to furnish a bid guarantee in the proper form and amount, by the time set for opening of bids, may be cause for rejection of the bid.
- (b) The bidder shall furnish a bid guarantee in the form of a firm commitment, e.g., bid bond supported by good and sufficient surety or sureties acceptable to the Government, postal money order, certified check, cashier's check, irrevocable letter of credit, or, under Treasury Department regulations, certain bonds or notes of the United States. The Contracting Officer will return bid guarantees, other than bid bonds, (1) to unsuccessful bidders as soon as practicable after the opening of bids, and (2) to the successful bidder upon execution of contractual documents and bonds (including any necessary coinsurance or reinsurance agreements), as required by the bid as accepted.-
- (c) The amount of the bid guarantee shall be twenty (20) percent of the bid price or \$3,000,000.00, whichever is less.-
- (d) If the successful bidder, upon acceptance of its bid by the Government within the period specified for acceptance, fails to execute all contractual documents or furnish executed bond(s) within 10 days after receipt of the forms by the bidder, the Contracting Officer may terminate the contract for default.
- (e) In the event the contract is terminated for default, the bidder is liable for any cost of acquiring the work that exceeds the amount of its bid, and the bid guarantee is available to offset the difference.

(End of Provision)

General Solicitation Questions/Answers

2.) SF1442 states completion time of 365 days. Exhibit F, F-1 states a different timeframe. Which is correct?

Block 11 of the SF1442 states a completion date of 365 days - this timeframe is for the base year of the MATOC award. Exhibit F, PERFORMANCE PERIOD states the completion date of the Seed Project only – it is stated in duration of days after receipt of Notice to Proceed.

3.) Section 00110, Part 1.6.3.5. states: "Offerors are cautioned to read Section 00800, SC-20, Performance of Work by the Contractor." SC-20 deals with EPA Energy Star, not Performance of Work by the Contractor.

Section 00110, Part 1.6.3.5. should reference SC-17, not SC-20.

4.) Bid bonds are required per task order. Is a bid bond required for the seed project?

Yes, a bid bond is required for the seed project. If the offer exceeds \$150,000, a bid guarantee is required in an amount not less than 20 percent of the offer price, but shall not exceed \$3,000,000.

Offerors are reminded that an acceptable Bid Guarantee MUST be received with the offer before the due date and time. Failure to furnish the required bid guarantee in the proper form and amount, by the time set for opening of offers, will require rejection of the offer in all cases except those listed in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 28.101-4, and may be cause for rejection even then. For guidance, Bidders are referred to FAR Part 28.101 Bid Guarantees, and FAR Part 28.2 Sureties and Other Security for Bonds. Corporate sureties offered for bonds must appear on the list contained in the Department of Treasury Circular 570, "Companies Holding Certificates of Authority as Acceptable Sureties on Federal Bonds and Acceptable Reinsuring Companies," See <http://www.fms.treas.gov/c570/c570.html>.

In addition bid guarantees received will be reviewed in accordance with IL 049-05-11 "Surety Bonds (Bid, Payment, Performance, and Payment Protection) on Construction Solicitations and Contracts".

- 5.) Page 58 of the Solicitation states that: "If you overnight mail the proposal the day before the due date, the proposal will not be received at the correct office by the due date and time and will be considered late." Is this referring to US Mail only or does this apply to FedEx and UPS as well.

This statement should be deleted in its entirety. The due date for receipt of proposals is shown in Block 13 of the SF 1442. It is the responsibility of the offeror to ensure that the proposal is mailed/delivered to allow time to reach the correct office by the proposal due date/time.

- 6.) Can we get the Exhibits in a Word document format so we and our references can electronically add the information vice having to hand-write the information?

Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, F/F-1, and G have been attached to this amendment in Word format.

- 7.) The solicitation requires we submit 1 original, 5 copies and 1 CD of Volume 1 (Offer Documents and Price/Cost Information). We expect receiving the best final pricing data from our subs and suppliers close to the time the offer is due. It will be difficult to create 6 copies and 1 CD of the Base Offer, the alternates, a detailed price breakdown by division and the self-performance calculations in such a short time frame.

We request we be allowed to submit only the base offer and alternates by the date/time the solicitations are due. We request we be allowed to submit the detailed price breakdown by division and self-performance calculations by email (or by mail or hand delivered) within the next 24 hours. This will allow us to focus on submitting the lowest price to the VA at bid time and clear pricing documentation later.

Offers must be submitted in accordance with the Solicitation.

- 8.) On page 58 of the solicitation, Section 1.5.3, it reads, "Written proposals shall be in a legible font size (10)." – Is this a MINIMUM font size requirement or the required font size throughout the proposal?

Font size (10) is the MINIMUM font size requirement. Font size (12) is the MAXIMUM font size requirement.

- 9.) My company is an SDVOSB contract management company and I want to team with another company to bid this job. If we meet the requirements as set forth in VA Information Letter 049-06-4, and a teaming arrangement is created, our team would not be considered a new entity that is required to be registered and approved by VetBiz, correct? Is it only a requirement that a Joint Venture be approved by VetBiz? On the SF1449, on block 14, would I list my company as the OFFEROR?

In accordance with FAR 9.601, a “Contractor team arrangement” means an arrangement in which – (1) Two or more companies form a partnership or joint venture to act as a potential prime contractor; or (2) A potential prime contractor agrees with one or more other companies to have them act as its subcontractors under a specified Government contract or acquisition program. If your Teaming Arrangement is established as a Joint Venture (JV), the SDVOSB JV must be registered and verified as a JV at www.vetbiz.gov, in accordance with Section 00110, Part 1.6.2.1.6, Section 00120, Part 1.1.11, and VA IL 049-06-4. If a Teaming Arrangement is formed that does not constitute a partnership or JV, it does not create a separate legal entity, and therefore the offer must be submitted in the name of the SDVOSB as the prime contractor to qualify for award under an SDVOSB set-aside, and the SDVOSB prime contractor must perform at least the minimum amount of work required by VAAR Clause 852.219-10, Solicitation Section 00110, Part 1.6.3.5, and Solicitation Section 00800, Part SC17. Resulting task orders will require a minimum of 15% of the work to be self-performed (general construction). Prime contractors must be capable of self-performing at least the minimum. The contracts resulting from this solicitation are not intended for management firms.

- 10.) If a proposal is submitted from a JV, do both companies need to be CVE verified? What if the majority company is CVE verified and the minority company is an SDVOSB not yet CVE verified?

To qualify as a Joint Venture under the SDVOSB program, each party to the JV must be a small business and one of the parties, the managing participant, must be an SDVOSB as applicable. Joint Ventures must be verified in VetBiz and SAM databases. Further determination of whether or not the JV, as an entity, qualifies as a small business depends on the dollar value of the proposed contract. SDVOSB contractors and Joint Ventures shall be verified by CVE prior to proposal submission.

- 11.) Reference Section 00110, Part 1.2.2 – The members of the Source Selection Board must execute an agreement with each Offeror that they will protect the Offeror's information from unauthorized use. To expedite the evaluation process, each Offeror must contact the above companies (from 1.2.1) to execute an agreement prior to submission of proposals. A copy of the agreement must be included in the proposal from the Offeror. There is no listing of who is to be contacted in Section 00110, 1.2.1, and there is no template for the agreement in the solicitation. When will the list be made available?

The Source Selection Board does not include any non-governmental employees. Part 1.2 of Section 00110 is not applicable to this acquisition.

- 1.) My company is an SDVOSB contract management company and I want to team with another company to bid this job. If we meet the requirements as set forth in VA Information Letter 049-06-4, and a teaming arrangement is created, can we use the teaming partner's past performance to bid this job?

If an offeror has little or no past performance and they intend to rely on a Teaming Partner's past performance, this Teaming Partner is required to complete an Exhibit B, and is required to have past performance questionnaires (Exhibit C) sent to their clients.

- 2.) Page 60 of the solicitation, Section 1.6.2.2.1, reads, "At a minimum, provide the name(s) of the subcontractors to be utilized in the following areas: Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical, Roofing, and Painting." Should these disciplines be provided as per the overall MATOC or just the seed project? Also, are all of these disciplines expected to be necessary for the overall MATOC?

The requirement to provide a list of major subcontractors has been removed. Subcontractor information only need be provided if that sub is part of a Teaming Arrangement with the offeror. Section 00110, Section 00120, Exhibit A, and Exhibit E have been revised to reflect the changes. All revised documents are attached and made part of the solicitation (revised sections highlighted in yellow).

- 3.) In lieu of Exhibit C Reference Questionnaires Forms, may we include copies of recent Past Performance Evaluations from completed projects?

No. In addition to Exhibit C Reference Questionnaire Forms you may include copies of recent past performance evaluations from completed projects.

- 4.) There are currently multiple IDIQ MATOC RFPs for various areas of VISN 6, each requiring the Offeror to request Exhibit C Past Performance Evaluation Questionnaires from previous customers. If the Offeror is submitting a proposal for more than one (1) of the RFPs, are we required to request that our previous customer complete Exhibit C for each proposed RFP?

Offerors are required to submit documents in accordance with the terms and conditions of each individual solicitation.

- 5.) Will previously completed Past Performance Questionnaires be accepted as well?

Offerors may submit previously completed past performance questionnaires in addition to the six (6) Exhibit Cs required by the MATOC Solicitation, but cannot be submitted in lieu of the six (6) Exhibit Cs required by the MATOC Solicitation.

Technical Questions/Answers

- 1.) On Exhibit E, page 2, Section 4B, a Notice to Proceed date of April 25, 2014 is requested for the seed project schedule. Is this correct? If not, please clarify the correct date.

A definitive Notice to Proceed Date will be determined once MATOC Contracts are awarded and each task order awarded. For purposes of evaluation, please use a NTP date of April 25, 2014.

Seed/Prototypical Questions/Answers

- 1.) A sample schedule is required however formatting requires that charts be on 8.5" x 11" paper. For clarity, a schedule is generally printed on no less than 11" x 17" paper size. Are we allowed to present the schedule on 11" x 17" paper?

A schedule can be submitted on 11" x 17" paper as long as it can still be included in the appropriate binder, volume, etc. of the proposal.