IFB VA701-14-B-0145 - WEST HAVEN CHP PLANT TECHNICAL QUESTIONS AND VA RESPONSE TRACKING SHEET

ITEM NO.	DATE QUESTION RECEIVED	DATE QUESTION ANSWERED	QUESTION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
1.	7/28/2014	8/6/2014 (CO)	The solicitation indicates "THIS PROJECT WILL BE ACQUIRED THROUGH FULL & OPEN COMPETITION." However, we notice in: 2.14 52.222-33 NOTICE OF REQUIREMENT FOR PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT (MAY 2010) ALTERNATE II (MAY 2010) And 4.4 52.222-34 PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT (MAY 2010) ALTERNATE I (MAY 2010) that the low bidder must "if awarded the contract, the offeror shall negotiate a project labor agreement with one or more labor organizations for the term of the resulting construction contract." Is this correct? Is this solicitation governed by a Project Labor Agreement? This does not appear to be consistent with "full and open competition" as it appears to discriminate against open shop contractors. Please confirm the government's intentions in this regard.	After further review, it has been determined that a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) will not be required for this project. FAR Clauses 52.222-33 and 52.222-34 are hereby removed from this solicitation.

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2.	7/28/2014	8/7/2014	In general, we would like to know whether a bid consisting of (2) reciprocating engine CHP systems would be considered? If so, we would also like to know how much design modification would be required by the VA as part of our proposal? We would potentially be willing to front the cost of the additional design work at risk, but it would be important to us to have clear guidelines detailing requirements. Any guidance you can provide would be much appreciated.	Reciprocating engines were considered during the development phase of the project. Upon detailed modeling analysis, it was determined that the life cycle cost of two reciprocating engines was significantly higher than two gas turbines. This is primarily due to the fact that the vast majority thermal needs of the campus are currently supplied through high-pressure steam, which is used for both heating and cooling. While a reciprocating engine installation would provide high-pressure steam, it would also produce hot water via its cooling circuits. With no sink for this energy, the heat is rejected, resulting in a lower cycle efficiency. Additionally, a gas turbine installation allows for supplemental duct firing, which is not available for heat recovery on reciprocating engines. For these reasons, reciprocating engines will not meet the performance requirements outlined in the design specifications and will not be considered.
3.	8/6/2014	8/6/2014 (CO)	The documents seem to indicate that the project will be constructed under a PLA agreement. Is this correct?	After further review, it has been determined that a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) will not be required for this project. FAR Clauses 52.222-33 and 52.222-34 are hereby removed from this solicitation.

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4.	8/5/2014	8/11/2014	Another site visit is requested as soon as possible so that prospective lead and asbestos abatement subcontractors can view all of the work areas, including the inside of the incineration building.	A second site visit will be provided on Wednesday August 13, 2014 at 1:00 PM ET. Please report to Building 15 and ask for Angelo Aglieco. The site visit will last approximately 1 hour and will go to the key parts of the site. Ensure to sign in on the Attendance Sheet upon arrival.
5.	8/5/2014	8/8/2014	Section 26 05 36 Ladder Type Cable Trays, page 7 line item 3.4 E "install covers after installation of cable is completed" Does the ladder tray require a cover? Is this ladder tray or cable tray?	Covers are not required. Cable tray shall be provided.
6.	8/5/2014	8/8/2014	Section 26 12 19 Pad Mounted, Liquid-filled Medium Voltage transformer, page 5 2.3 BIL rating has this pad mount as a Primary 13.8 KV wye and the secondary as a 13.8 KV delta. Is this correct?	Yes, the one to one transformers are required by the utility company.
7.	8/5/2014	8/6/2014 (CO)	What percentage of the project is to be set aside for SDVOSB contractors?	The VA has not determined the Fiscal Year 2014 Small Business Subcontracting Goals. Please use the below Small Business Subcontracting Goals from 2013: Total Small: 35% SDVOSB: 10% VOSB: 12% SDB: 5% WOSB: 5% HUBZone: 3%
8.	8/5/2014	8/6/2014 (CO)	Can you explain what a project labor agreement is? And how it applies to a Federal project with Davis Bacon wage rates?	After further review, it has been determined that a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) will not be required for this project. FAR Clauses 52.222-33 and 52.222-34 are hereby removed from this solicitation.

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9.	8/5/2014	8/8/2014	Are there any utility company fees or back charges that are the responsibility of the contractor or are these to be paid by the owner?	All construction related fees and permit requirements to be addressed by the GC. All operations fees and permits to be addressed by the building owner/Government per FAR regulations.
10.	8/5/2014	8/8/2014	Can EMT conduit with steel compression fittings be used indoors for conductors 600 volts and less? Specification section 3260533 "Raceways and boxes for electrical systems" Part 2 2.1 B3. allows EMT with steel compression fittings however 260533 3.4 C (page 8) indicates conduit for conductors 600 volt and below in exposed work installations shall be rigid steel. Can an exception be made to use EMT for 600 volts and less, communication, signal, data, controls, etc. exposed if not subject to physical damage? This also applies to the long communication conduits in the walkable tunnel.	Yes, per specification sections 26 05 33 3.3.B.2. Specification section 26 05 33 3.4 C does not allow the use of EMT, however an exception will be made for communication, signal data, controls, and other low voltage systems where exposed and not subject to physical damage.
11.	8/6/2014	8/8/2014	The specification section 27 51 16 "Public Address & Mass Notification System" is part of this project package but the devices are not shown nor the riser diagram. Does this facility have an existing Public Address & Mass Notification system that we'll be connecting to or is this a standalone system for the CHP Plant. Please provide clarification for this section 27 51 16.	Specification section 27 51 16 is an extension of the existing system. Speakers devices are shown on the electrical power plans, drawings 19.EP.101 and 19.EP.102
12.	8/6/2014	8/6/2014 (CO)	The solicitation refers to the Department's annual SDVOSB and VOSB prime contracting goals. We have not been able to locate this information. Can you state the goals for SDVOSB and VOSB participation on this project?	The VA has not determined the Fiscal Year 2014 Small Business Subcontracting Goals. Please use the below Small Business Subcontracting Goals from 2013: Total Small: 35% SDVOSB: 10% VOSB: 12% SDB: 5% WOSB: 5% HUBZone: 3%

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13.	7/31/2014	8/20/2014	Will Autocads of the Final Bid Drawings be made available to the successful bidder in order to use them as a basis to finalize the CHP design?	Yes this is correct.
14.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**Specification Section 230923 – Direct-Digital Control System for HVAC:** Please confirm the following installation requirements. All wiring is to be per the control manufacturer's requirements with regard to wiring sizing, type, number of conductors, shielding, etc."	Yes, this is correct as per the specification.
15.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**General Conditions Specification Section Buy Domestic Requirements:** Please confirm that buy domestic requirements are in place per page 28 of 50 Section 4.7 52.225-11 Buy American – Construction Materials and that Major Equipment manufactured in China are NOT acceptable as China is not on the list of World trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement countries.	Yes, this is correct.
16.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**WTO Quality Control requirements:** Please confirm that in order to ensure quality control, chillers of primarily foreign design with final assembly in a World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement shall have been installed and operational in the United States not less than 5 years ago.	Yes, this is correct.
17.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**Quality Control and Warranty Requirements** In order to ensure quality control on chillers manufactured outside of the United States and to insure the best value is provided to the VA, please confirm that all chillers regardless of where they are manufactured must have a 10 year warranty.	Yes, this is correct.
18.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**Service Requirements:** Please confirm that all Chiller manufacturers must have a local service branch within 50 miles of the VA West Haven Location.	Yes, this is correct.

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19.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**Parts Availability Requirements:** Please confirm that all Chiller manufacturers must have a parts stocking program in the United States and within 24 hours shipping to the VAMC West Haven location to insure continuous service for the life of these chillers.	Yes, this is correct.
20.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**Specification Section 236400-3 Packaged Water Chillers:**UL and ETL Listing - The Underwriters Laboratories Inc (UL) 1995-2005 for Heating and Cooling Equipment is listed as an applicable publication. Please confirm that UL and ETL listing ARE REQUIRED for the chillers on this project to be consistent with both local and VA federal requirements.	Yes, this is correct.
21.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**Specification Section 236400-3 Packaged Water Chillers:** Please confirm that Steam Turbine Driven Centrifugal Chillers are an acceptable alternate to the absorption chillers specified.	This is not acceptable per VA project requirements.
22.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**Specification Section 236400-3 Packaged Water Chillers:** The specifications allow the selected contractors to choose the prime mover and therefore some of the “ancillary equipment” performance characteristics and conditions. As such it may be beneficial to consider one chiller, two chillers, or three chillers to best suit the final design of the plant. Please verify that bids considering one, two, or three chillers would be acceptable.	Providing two chillers is the project requirement. Providing 1 or 3 chillers is not acceptable per the VA project requirements.

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23.	8/6/2014	8/20/2014	**Specification Section 230923 – Direct-Digital Control System for HVAC:** Please confirm that if the Johnson Controls system is chosen as specified in section 230923 it is required to be the latest Metasys Extended Architecture system compatible with the existing Johnson Controls ADX. The Johnson System at the VA in West Haven is installed and serviced by the Branch Office of Johnson Controls, Windsor, CT 860-882-7082. Johnson Controls *PMI systems, N2 Systems, or FX systems are not acceptable* as they are not compatible with the existing Johnson Controls systems and are no longer to be used at the VA in West Haven. There has been confusion in the past that is to be avoided in the future.	This is correct. The new system, regardless of the vendor chosen, must be fully compatible with the existing campus BMS infrastructure and provide a seamless transition if an alternate vendor is chosen from the existing system.
24.	8/8/2014	8/20/2014	Will Cannon Design be stamping and filing the construction documents with all jurisdictions for permitting purposes?	Cannon Design will be providing stamped and signed permit documents. It is the GC responsibility to submit for permit.
25.	8/8/2014	8/20/2014	Reference 01 00 00 1.18.D: May the Contractor provide for construction power by installing a metered feed off of the VA power distribution system instead of getting a new utility service?	Cannon Design has no objection to this but is subject to available capacity and approval by VA.
26.	8/8/2014	8/20/2014	The Contractor is assuming that fill excavated from the trench work may be utilized for common backfill.	Excavated fill may be reused if deemed appropriate fill by geotechnical engineer.
27.	8/8/2014	8/20/2014	The Contractor is assuming that ledge will not be encountered in the excavation of the trench work.	Additional boring information is included in addendum no. 3. It should be noted that the utility trench located under the existing side walk between MH#21 & MH#22 was recently installed with ledge removed to accommodate the new side walk. Additional ledge removal is likely required in this area as well as other areas, refer to boring logs.

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28.	8/8/2014	8/20/2014	The Contractor is assuming that the only building materials that need to be abated are lead and asbestos.	Requirements for addressing hazardous material beyond lead and asbestos is included in the Division 2 specifications.
29.	8/8/2014	8/20/2014	The Contractor is assuming that lead and asbestos abatement in Building 16 is limited to those areas that are to be disturbed by the new construction.	Correct, disturbed by new construction, tie in or demolition.
30.	8/11/2014	8/11/2014	Amendment 2 eliminated the requirement for a Project Labor Agreement. Can we assume that the Davis Bacon Act will apply to the project?	Davis Bacon still applies.
31.	8/11/2014	8/11/2014	Some non-union subcontractors did not attend the August 4th pre-bid meeting on site due to the requirement at the time for a Project Labor Agreement. Can another site visit be provided to allow these subcontractors a fair chance of submitting a competitive bid?	A second site visit has been scheduled for August 13, 2014 at 1 PM ET.
32.	8/11/2014	8/11/2014	Can the bid due date be postponed for one week to allow subcontractors who were ineligible to bid prior to the issuance of Amendment 2 time to visit the site, if allowed, and to develop their estimate?	No time extension is approved. Please provide the bid estimates in the allotted time.
33.	8/11/2014	8/20/2014	Drawing MH.601 specifies the Cooling Tower Sound Pressure Level to be a Maximum of 83 dBA @ 5 ft and 71 dBA @ 90 ft. Specification Section 236500 specifies a Cooling Tower sound level of 59 dBA @ 5 ft and 40 dBA at 90 ft "in any direction from building exterior north façade". 40 dBA is extremely low. Please confirm the sound level requirement and the receptor location or the direction that this low level must be achieved.	The specification is correct. Addendum 3 updated the scheduled acoustic performance data.
34.	8/11/2014	8/20/2014	Section 236500, Para. 1.1.A describes a closed circuit fluid cooler. Please confirm that there is no closed circuit fluid cooler required for this project.	Closed circuit fluid coolers are required for the turbine lube oil heat rejection requirements. Refer to the schedule on MH-601
35.	8/11/2014	8/20/2014	In Section 232500 the size of the Electronic Pulse Power System is not specified. Is the reaction chamber (pipe assembly) 20 inch per the CW riser or is it 16 inch?	The pipe assembly size should be 20 inch per drawing MI606.

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36.	8/12/2014	8/20/2014	At the site visit the engineering firm had indicated there were two additional isolation transformers to be added to the project. It was my understanding these would be located outside Building 19. Has a revised drawing been issued to reflect these new isolation transformers as well as a new specification for the isolation transformers?	Yes, refer to Addendum #1.
37.	8/12/2014	8/20/2014	On drawing ES.101 the duct bank is identified with markings 2A, 2B, 1B, 3A, & 3B. What do these numbers and letters represent? I did not see a ductbank schedule listed.	Refer to drawing EP.602, Detail E1 for ductbank schedule.
38.	8/12/2014	8/20/2014	Note 14 on drawing EP.501 indicates the size and quantity of the feeder from the Shallbetter Meters to the N-SWGR-1 but does not indicate if a grounding conductor is required in the raceway. If so please identify the size.	A ground conductor is not required.
39.	8/12/2014	8/20/2014	Is drawing information shown on drawing EP.502 a representation of the internal wiring of the N-SWGR-1 switchgear on the third floor of the new CHP Building?	Drawing EP.501 and EP.502 is one-line diagram of switchgear N-SWGR-1 located on the third floor of the CHP building. It does not show all internal wiring but does show design intent of the relay and protection schemes required for the switchgear and the external wiring interface with the cogeneration system.
40.	8/12/2014	8/20/2014	Is it possible to identify the feeder #'s as shown on the riser diagram EP.509? Meaning the 13.8 KV Cogen 1 & 2 conduit would have a note #13 as referenced on drawing EP.501 and line 626 & 627 as well as "Existing UI Switchgear Building 1" would be a note # 14 as referenced on drawing EP.501?	All medium voltage feeders have been identified on EP.501 and EP.502, duplicating this effort may cause confusion in the future, especially if there is a change to one drawing and someone forgets to update the other drawing. The intent of drawing EP.509 was to show the entire medium voltage system in diagrammatic form.

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41.	8/12/2014	8/20/2014	Are either of the feeders from the existing MV switchgear in Building 1 to Manhole #10 existing to be reused and spliced, or are these required to be new from N-SWGR-1 to the existing switchgear in Building 1 via all manholes listed?	Refer to drawing EP.509, Keyed Note 2 for work required.
42.	8/12/2014	8/20/2014	Panel 2PNL2 and Panel 1PNL2 on the riser diagram EP.503 do not match what is shown on the panel schedules. Please advise	2PNL2 panel schedule should have a mains rating of 100 amps and a 100 amp main circuit breaker. 1PNL2 panel schedule should have a mains rating of 225 amps and a 150 amp main circuit breaker.
43.	8/12/2014	8/20/2014	Panel 3PNL1 on the riser diagram does not match the size as shown on the panel schedule. Please advise	3PNL1 panel schedule should have a mains rating of 100 amps and a 100 amp main circuit breaker.
44.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	Drawing EP101 shows 6 type LK7 fixtures around the perimeter of the new Salt & storage Building but these do not appear on the fixture schedule. Please advise as to the type.	LK7 is the same as LK6 except 120v.
45.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	Drawing 19.EP.101 and 19.EP.102 show the four ATS switches as future. The generator is also future. However the riser diagrams EP503 & EP504 shows the conduit and feeder to each ATS location. Are we only installing conduits under this base bid. Conduits and conductors or only breakers and no conduits or conductors? This is typical of 2ATSS1, 1ATSE1, 1ATSE2 and 1ATSE3 for line , emergency and load. Please advise.	Drawing 19.EP.101 shows (1) ATS as future and (1) ATS to be provided, 2ATSS1, drawing 19. EP.102 shows (2) ATS's as future, drawing EP.101 shows (3) ATS's to be provided, 1ATSE1, 1ATSE2 and 1ATSE3. All conduit and wiring shall be provided as indicated on drawing EP.504. Also generator switchboard 1PGH1 is to be provided as part of this scope.
46.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	Do these 4 ATS's need conduits and wiring to the generator for the start circuits or will this be controlled via the Mod Bus?	Yes, start circuit is required. Refer to drawing EP.504, notes 3 and 4 for start circuit.

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47.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	Keyed note 3 on drawing 19.EP.101 indicates “all wiring with enclosure shall be NEC. Class 1 Division 2. Should this read “within” and does this note pertain to the manufacture of the Cogen’s and controllers or is the 15 KV wiring from the N-SWGR-1 required to be installed in a Class 1 Division 2 method? Also can you provide a detail layout of where to conduits should enter the Cogen Units, Load interrupters and Neutral Grounding Reactor typical of two systems,	Yes, note should state “within”. Our understanding is that all wiring within the gas compressor enclosures and cogen enclosures shall be Class 1, Division 2. A detail is not available, this would depend on the selected manufacturer and will need to be coordinated by the Electrical Conractor.
48.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	Drawing EP.501 only shows the power wiring from the N-SWGR-1 to the load interrupters LI1 & LI2 and from the load interrupters to the Cogen unit and then from the Cogen unit to the Neutral Reactors. The conduit and cabling between the generator Protection Relay Cabinet and the different equipment has not been identified. Is this internal wiring done by the manufacture at the factory or does the EC need to furnish and install conduits and cabling. Please advise.	The conduit and cabling between the generator protection relay cabinet and other equipment shown on the drawing shall be provided by Electrical Contractor. Coordination with relay manufacturer and cogen manufacturer is required.
49.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	Drawing 19.AS.101 level 01 floor plan shows two areas between column line A/B and 2/4. Are these the locations for the two Generator Protection Relays that are supplied by the Manufacture? If so can this equipment be fed from below? If yes, does the conduit system entering this equipment also need to be class 1 division 2? Is it possible to have a conduit layout plant for the Cogen, Reactor and relay cabinet with sizes and its cabling schedule. Or is the entire Cogen system complete furnished, piped and wired as by the manufacture?	This is the location of the (2) gas compressors. EC should coordinate with the gas compressor manufacturer to confirm if the equipment can be fed from below. Our understanding is that all wiring within the gas compressor enclosure shall be Class 1, Division 2.

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50.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	What is the mounting height of the fixtures in the Sand & Salt Bay's 1 & 2 and can the engineer provide a detail. Please reference drawing 65.AS.311. I'm not sure if they will be pendant mounted from the Gable Truss and who would provide the hanger system if it is.	The EC is responsible for the hanging system. Fixtures shall be pendant mounted with the bottom of fixture 18' 6" above finished floor.
51.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	If the EC is responsible for the hanging system in the Sand & Salt Storage Building would stainless steel strut, rod and associated materials be required?	The EC is responsible for the hanging system in the Sand & Salt Storage Bldg. Hot dipped galvanized steel strut/rods should be provided.
52.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	Drawing EP.503, switchboard N-USS-1 breaker F4A is a 400 amp breaker feeding panel 2LNH1. The feeder is identified as a 400 amp 3 phase three wire circuit (400/3). The concern is the three phase 4 wire feeders leaving panel 2LNH1. Both are three phase 4 wire but there is no neutral at this panel. Should the feeders to panel 3LNH1 and 1LNH1 be changed to 100/3 circuit numbers and the panels changed to three phase three wire as well? Or should the feeder from F4A be labeled as a 400/4? Please advise.	The feeder to panelboard 2LNH1 shall be identified as "400/4".
53.	8/13/2014	8/20/2014	Drawing EP.503 shows the elevator disconnect and controller on level 2 but the machine room is on level 1. Is 2 hour fire rated MI cable required to feed this elevator equipment or is standard GRC conduit acceptable?	Elevator disconnect and controller shall be located on Level 1 within the elevator machine room. MI cable is not required to feed the elevator.

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54.	8/14/2014	8/28/2014	The fixture schedule on drawing EP.703 does not specify any manufactures or catalog numbers for the lighting vendors to cross reference. Is this Luminaire Schedule complete and should we make our own choice or can the engineer provide a more descriptive fixture type. The specifications are only generic and do not provide enough information either.	The luminaire schedule is written as a performance specification to support the VA's requirement for non-proprietary luminaire selections and should be considered complete. Luminaires should be bid as Tier 1, High Quality/Performance fixtures; basis of design that the performance spec was based on the fixture manufacturer and series listed below for each type. All proposed equals/alternates will be required to meet the same quality, aesthetic, and performance requirements as these fixtures. CH1- Lithonia VW Series FS1- Lithonia LB Series LD1- Gotham Evo Series LH1- Luminaire Vision 8 Series LH2- Lithonia OLVT Series LI1- Cree CS14 Series LI2- Cree CS14 Series LW1- Birchwood Nolan Series LX1- A.light – D3 Series LX2- Lumenpulse Lumen Façade Series LX3- Lumenpulse Lumen Façade Series LX4- Gardco Pure Form Series LX5- Gardco Pure Form Series LX6- Gardco Line LED Series LX7- Gardco Line LED Series

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55.	8/14/2014	8/28/2014	Please confirm whether the existing Siemens Building Automation system, already located in the West Haven VAMC central plant may be utilized in the CHP project. Please note that the contact at Siemens for this control system is: Mr. Jason Nilon Siemens Industry, Inc. 104 Sebethe Drive Cromwell, CT 06416 jason.nilon@siemens.com +1 (860) 301-2014	The drawings indicate end devices which may be reused. It is assumed that new control hardware will be included for the BAS portion of bids. Credit change orders to reuse controllers that meet the project specifications will be entertained after award. Bids for the Building Automation System (BAS) will be limited to: Johnson Controls 21 Griffin Road North, Suite 4 Windsor, CT 06095 Contac t: Jeff Hines 860-882-7082 jeffrey.d.hines@jci.com Siemens Industry, Inc. 104 Sebethe Drive Cromwell, CT 06416 Contact: Jason Nilon 860-301-2014 jason.nilon@siemens.com
56.	8/14/2014	8/28/2014	Drawing EP-504 existing boiler building has three AST's installed with three 112.5 KVA XFMR's. The load side of 1T2 & 1T3 are both 400 amp while the load side of 1T4 (112.5 KVA XFMR) is shown as 225 amp. Is this transformer oversized for this feeder or is the feeder incorrect to the jb feeding bldg 15? Please advise.	Transformer is oversized.

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57.	8/14/2014	8/28/2014	According to the section 48 20 10 2.3 A and B, performance guarantee requirement is maximum fuel consumption at full load and at part load (for example, 1439kW/1100kW for System#2). The other numbers in the tables will be for reference. Please confirm	The values in the table represent all minimum performance requirements at maximum fuel consumption (i.e. full load conditions). Maximum fuel consumption is not intended to be the sole performance requirement. For example, System 2 shall produce 1,439 kW at a maximum fuel consumption of 20.85 MMBTU/hr. Furthermore, the System shall produce a minimum exhaust flow of 62,640 lbs/hr at 993 deg-F with an associated minimum steam flow of 11,322 lbs/hr
58.	8/14/2014	8/28/2014	Please provide fuel gas composition data in order to confirm emission data.	Fuel gas Composition data was provided as part of appendix to specification section 48 20 10 pages 54 to 58 which was included in the original bid package.
59.	8/14/2014	8/28/2014	Section 48 20 10 2.1D mentions the site elevation is 130 ft abv MSL. On the other hand, 2.3 A Notes3 mentions 150 ft above sea level. Which elevation shall be used for the performance guarantee?	The performance specified is based on 0 ft elevation ASL. Submit catalogued performance at that elevation. Base performance guarantee on elevation = 110' A.S.L. This corresponds to the turbine room floor.
60.	8/14/2014	8/28/2014	How do you evaluate or compare 3 different systems (outputs)? Please provide formula or methodology. Is there advantage for the smaller output or larger output?	The criteria established for the three prime movers was carefully established to address the minimum and maximum needs of the hospital and while there are advantages and disadvantages of being on either end of the capacity threshold, it was not deemed to be in the best interest of the VA to consider paying more for extra capacity. Therefore the lowest cost solution within the identified criteria will be the only award consideration, which is not necessarily the unit with the smallest capacity.

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61.	8/14/2014	8/28/2014	Do you accept the offer of middle range between System#1 and System#3? Kawasaki has 1.7MW gas turbine. At the site condition, generator output/fuel consumption will be 1605kW/21.97MMBtu/h, which is better efficiency than System#3 performance.	All turbines within the range of System 1 and 3 were evaluated. If a turbine manufacturer had more than one turbine that fit the performance criteria, the turbine model that had the best financial performance was selected to be included as a "System" in the CHP plant specification. Therefore, alternative systems that do not meet the specified performance criteria will not be considered.
62.	8/15/2014	8/28/2014	Specification Section 48 20 10 Part 1 , 1.1.B , Documents indicate that bids can be based on one of 3 system arrangements. The current design is based on System #1. We assume that that the Government will pay the cost of redesign if System #2 or #3 is selected to be installed?	All cost associated with advancing the design beyond that provided in the bid documents is the responsibility of the contractor, and required to be submitted in the shop drawing and coordination drawing submittal stage.
63.	8/15/2014	8/28/2014	Specification Section 48 20 10 , Part 2, 2.3 Performance Guarantees. The CHP Project is a fully designed project by the engineer of record. The documents indicate that it is the Government's intent to have the contractor comply with the performance guarantees (input, output ,and emissions) for the entire system. Please verify that it is the government's intent that the successful bidder be required to guarantee the system performance.	This is correct, the successful bidder will be required to guarantee performance in writing.
64.	8/15/2014	8/22/2014	On a previous CHP Project procured by the VA, specifically VA Medical Center Palo Alto , the documents described a " one - time " penalty for generator output and heat rate. The West Haven CHP Project does not describe damages associated with system performance. Please consider " one-time " damages for the West Haven CHP Plant.	There are no damages for this project.

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65.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Are the chilled water pumps tagged as 19-CHP-1 and 19-CHP-2 on MH.601 the same as the chilled water pumps noted on MI.605 as 19-P-3 and 19-P-4 ?	Yes, this is correct.
66.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	What are the horsepower's of the existing pumps CHWP-1 and CHWP-2 identified on MI.605 ?	150 horsepower
67.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	EP.702 shows two chilled water pumps, 16A-CHW-P1 and 16A-CHW-P2. Are these the existing chilled water pumps?	Yes, this is correct.
68.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Are the condenser water pumps tagged as 19-CWP-1 and 19-CWP-2 on MH.601 the same as the condenser water pumps noted on MI.606 as 19-P-1 and 19-P-2 ?	Yes, this is correct.
69.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	MH.601 shows VFD's for 19-GWP-1 and 19-GWP-1A. VFD's are not shown on MI.609. Are VFD's required for these pumps?	Yes, VFD's are required for these pumps as indicated on the schedule. Control system shall start/stop pumps at fixed speed, VSDs shall be used to manually balance pumps Same applies for 19- GWP-2/2A.
70.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Cooling Tower cells are shown as 20 HP on MH.601 and 40 HP on EP.701. Please confirm HP for the cooling tower cells?	Each cooling tower cell is provided with a 40HP whisper quiet fan.
71.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	EP.702 shows VFD's for 19-GP-1 and 19-GP-2. VFD's serving these pumps are also shown on level 1 on 19-EP.101. These pumps could not be found on the mechanical prints. Are VFD's required for these pumps and if so please confirm the horsepower and voltage for these pumps?	Pumps 19-GP-1 and 19-GP-2 are part of the gas compressor package. VFD's are required and the horsepower and voltage are indicated on drawing EP.702.

ITEM NO.	DATE QUESTION RECEIVED	DATE QUESTION ANSWERED	QUESTION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
72.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Per specification 23 09 23 – 7, par. F, the control system vendor (23 09 23) is responsible for furnishing the HVAC/Chiller VFD's (which I am assuming means the VFD's serving the fans and pumps). Spec 22 05 11 – 10, par. 2.6.B and spec 23 05 11 -12. Par. 2.7.B both state: "Multiple units of the same class of equipment, i.e. air handlers, fans, pumps, shall be product of a single manufacturer". We interpret this sentence to mean that all HVAC VFD's (pumps and fans) are to be of the same manufacturer. Spec section 23 65 00 (Cooling tower), par. 2.2.G.2.c states that the cooling tower mfg is to provide the VFD's. Spec section 23 21 23 (pumps), par. 2.1.A.5.b states that the pump mfg is to provide the VFD's. In order to accommodate the same VFD mfg (as noted in Spec 22 05 11 – 10, par. 2.6.B and spec 23 05 11 -12. Par. 2.7.B) for all the HVAC equipment it is suggested to have a single entity (such as the controls BAS contractor and/or the Plant control system Integrator) provide all the VFD's for this project. A sole source manufacturer specified (such as ABB whom the VA has purchased and installed numerous VFD's for this site) to standardize and minimize future service related issues may prove to be in the VA's best long term interest.	The mechanical contractor shall provide all VFDs controlling mechanical equipment. All VFDs provided shall be by a single manufacturer. Where a VFD is integral to a packaged system's controls and is provided by that system's manufacturer, the mechanical contractor shall coordinate where possible for the packaged VFD to be from the same manufacturer as the balance of plant VFDs. Regardless, all VFDs on the project shall comply with the specifications.
73.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Spec 22 15 00 – 8, par. 2.8.I states that the compressor is to come with a full voltage magnetic motor starter. A VFD serving the compressors is shown on EP.701 and 19.MP.101. Do the compressors require VFD's and who is responsible for providing them?	VFD not required for air compressors and VFD's are not indicated on mechanical or electrical drawings for air compressors.

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74.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Spec 48 20 10-21, par.2.5, line 16: HRSG surface blowdown piping and valves to be controlled by remote sampling/control system provided under separate contract. What separate contract and what are the specifications?	The bid should include the cost to furnish and install a new centralized boiler water monitoring and treatment system similar to the Nalco 3D system or approved equal. The system should be sized and configured to treat five boilers (three existing gas/oil boilers and two new HRSGs) in addition to a single deaerator tank.
75.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	23 09 11-11, G Refers to Section 23 52 39 & 23 52 33, these sections are not in the specifications are they required?	No, they are not required.
76.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	23 09 11-25, 2.4 specifies individual controls panels for boilers. Can the existing Boiler control panels be re-used and modified to comply with the specifications?	It would be anticipated that any modifications to existing boiler controls would reuse existing panels.
77.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	23 09 11-37, B specifies access to transmitters from floor or platform without use of portable ladder. Does this apply to the existing boiler plant transmitters?	This applies to new devices not existing ones.
78.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	01 42 19, Pg. 1-8 does not reference VA/BEI requirements and/or recommendations as it applies to VA/BEI standards for installation and testing of boiler related components and hardware. Is this standard to apply to this project as a whole? If so, is the existing Boiler Plant to be upgraded to comply with VA/BEI standards and testing.	Specifications call for VA/BEI requirements to be met for all new safety devices. Any existing devices that are replaced, modified or otherwise effected by this project shall also be included in this requirement. The unaffected, existing safety devices are covered by an existing annual testing program by the VA.

ITEM NO.	DATE QUESTION RECEIVED	DATE QUESTION ANSWERED	QUESTION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
79.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Numerous existing old Boiler Plant pieces of equipment and hardware (DA, Condensate tank, Chillers, Cooling Towers, pumps, valves, piping, etc.) are being utilized to supply/back-up the new CHP plant. Is it the responsibility of the awarded contractor to warranty and/or guarantee the ability of the existing pieces of equipment to function thru the construction phases and warranty/guarantee period?	No, this is not the intent. The contractor should however make every effort to bring existing equipment deficiencies to the attention of the VA.
80.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Is it the responsibility of the awarded contractor to determine, if in fact, the design, construction and operation of the existing Boiler Plant complies with specifications, drawings, etc. and will perform as required?	No, this is not a responsibility of the contractor.
81.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	23 09 11-34, 2.15 BOILER PLANT BUILDING DANGEROUS GAS DETECTION SYSTEM; Is it the intension of the specification to provide and install a new Gas Detection system(s) and/or expand the existing Gas detection system(s)?	Gas detection systems are required as specified and indicated on drawings. New gas detection systems for the added plant scope are required under this project. However, the project team would entertain credit change order proposals, during design, as part of the delegated plant design to streamline operation or reduce cost by extending the existing systems in lieu of complete new systems.
82.	8/18/2014	8/20/2014	We have received a lot of questions asking for a (1) week bid date extension based on Labor Day holiday being 9/01/14. Subcontractors stating that they are on vacation the week before or week of 9/01/14. This (1) week bid date extension would bring a more competitive price proposal to the Department of Veterans Affair.	After review the VA will revised the due date for Bids. The new bid opening date is September 9, 2014 at 11:00 AM ET. This will be the only extension for this project.

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83.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	The IFB lists a series of expected performance figures for the gensets, HRSG, SCR and emissions (by genset, HRSG and overall to meet the CT permit by rule). There is also a wide span in power and steam output levels in the RFP offering depending on the equipment configuration selected. Configuration of the genset will be different depending on the HRSG + SCR specs to meet the overall emission requirements. In turn, the guaranteed performance of the genset/HRSG will depend on the combined package with HRSG & SCR as well. This complexity places significant ambiguity onto the GC's around major component selection and verifying individual system (genset, HRSG, SCR/emissions) as well as overall system compliance. Please advise how bidders should interpret and proceed.	During design significant effort was made by the Engineering team to confirm that the three systems serving as basis for bidding could be made to work within the constraints indicated. The final, installed system must be guaranteed in writing by a single entity, the prime contractor. It is the responsibility of the prime contractor to coordinate multiple guarantees offered by major equipment vendors to produce one single guarantee.
84.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	We understand that main decision parameter is the low price. However, these 3 equipment options (prime mover and HRSG) are different sizes. Therefore, will there be a way to factor in the benefit of higher/lower production rates versus project cost (#/hr of steam &$/kW)? Otherwise, it appears smaller units may have an advantage on pricing for the bid, despite larger units potentially having higher useful output & better lifecycle costs (better overall ROI/benefit)?	Refer to Response to #60.
85.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Tender does not mention about payment schedules, lead time etc. Could you please clarify what are VA's expectations? Will these terms be agreed between GC and OEM/subs ?	The GC and subs will have to coordinate these items. Lead times will have to be coordinated with all parties in order to meet the timelines for the project.

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86.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	UL listing: We understand from RFP that "steel above ground tanks, all electrical systems, all instrumentation and control system, wiring installation, all safety systems should be UL listed". In our case, all such equipment inside our genset enclosure are already UL listed. Please clarify whether you require the overall genset package to be UL listed as well.	UL listing is required.
87.	8/18/2014	8/22/2014	"Made in US": Although a majority of the parts inside the genset enclosure are "Made in US", overall assembly of the genset is typically done outside the US. Is this acceptable for the VA, or does the unit also need to be assembled in US to meet the VA requirement for "Made in US"?	Products need to be in accordance with 52.225-12 Notice of Buy American Requirements – Construction Materials Under Trade Agreements, 52.225-11 Buy American – Construction Materials Under Trade Agreements, and VAAR 852.236-89 Buy American Act – Alternate I.
88.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Class I, Div 2 requirement (Section 48 20 10 – 2.11 – K): Class I, Div. 2 classification might not be necessary for all the electrical/electronic devices inside the turbine enclosure. One turbine option has an enclosure designed such that any possible gas leakage stays in the "turbine section" of the enclosure. i.e. it is impossible to reach to the "generator section" where all the electrical devices and instruments are kept. This technical detail is proven by OEM via detailed CFD simulations, which can be shared for VA's review. Please advise.	Since there is no guarantee the authority having jurisdiction will accept this assurance, the specification calling for Class I Div 2 will be enforced for bidding. The team will entertain possible credits change order for modifying this classification during shop drawing phase.
89.	8/18/2014	9/4/2014	LTSA: Is VA interested in long term service agreements for gas turbine genset? Can you specify requirements for services agreements (term length, to include scheduled and/or unscheduled maintenance, availability, VA requirements for factory authorized parts/services within 100 miles of facility, other). This can be a significant cost item over the project lifecycle (millions of $$) and may also impact the project pricing and VA selection criteria.	Long term service agreement is not to be included in the scope of work.

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90.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Self-cleaning filters (Section 48 28 10 - 2.4 – G – 8): What is the reason for asking self-cleaning filters? Self-cleaning filters are typically only required in extremely dusty environments such as deserts, gypsum factories etc. Can you please clarify, as this may also be an unnecessary cost item to the VA?	As discussed during the bid walkthrough ancillary components outside the turbine enclosure were not required for all manufacturers per discussions during design. However, a critical point is serviceability. If the manufacturer in question can ensure ease of access then self-cleaning may not be necessary.
91.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Has a noise study been conducted for the new facility? If so, may we get a copy of it? If not, is the Contractor responsible to perform one?	Yes, acoustical report exists and is included in addendum no. 4.
92.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Per good industry practice and references in the specifications, the Contractor is responsible for Code compliance in regards to means and methods only. We assume that the Engineer of Record, Cannon Design, is responsible for Code compliance in regards to the Engineering design. Please confirm.	Correct, Cannon Design is responsible for the code compliant documents. The contactor is responsible for adhering to these documents and by reference code requirements.
93.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Is the extent of seismic design limited to the new building and its systems?	Yes, and any new equipment associated with the project located in adjacent buildings.
94.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Is specification Section 13 05 41 – Seismic Restraint Requirements for Non-Structural Components pertinent to this project? Paragraph 3.1.D.1 which requires testing of 10% of anchors in masonry and concrete seems excessive for this part of the country, even with the 1.5.B exceptions. Please indicate the level of testing.	Yes, these are VA requirements.
95.	8/18/2014	8/22/2014	Addendum 2 was included in Amendment/Modification No. A00003. We have not seen Addendum 1 in any of the 3 issued Amendments. Also note that we have not seen any additional details on the electrical service entrance as alluded to in the first pre-bid site meeting. Please provide.	Addendum 1 was posted in Amendment A00004.
96.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Are as-built drawings of underground utilities available? If so, please provide.	Drawings that exist will be made available to the selected contractor.

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97.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Has the local fire authority reviewed and approved the plans?	VA is the AHJ (VISN 1 Life and Fire Safety Officer – Joe P.) has reviewed the documents.
98.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	The urea tank appears to be located on an equipment pad outside. Was there consideration given to enclosing the vessel with the proper safety systems, cover, containment and venting?	Yes, the urea tank is located on a concrete pad adjacent to the building and safety requirements have been coordinated with tank manufacturers.
99.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Should the Cooling Tower piping, make-up water and overflow piping be heat traced?	Yes, condenser, make-up, overflow and any other piping associated with the cooling towers located outdoors should be heat traced.
100.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Ref. ES.101: Key Note 11 calls for a 4" conduit with (3) 1-1/4" inner ducts. The drawing indicates three lines in the corridor. Do these lines represent the three inner ducts in the 4" for the fiber cable and the 100 Pair cables? Does Note 11 pertain to the entire length of the run from the PBX Telephone Hub to the Building 16 Telecommunications Room? Is the 200 pair copper cable to be installed in conduit? Regarding Note 14, is the 6 Strand MM to be installed in conduit from Building 2 to the intersection of the other data cable?	No, the three lines in the corridor diagrammatically show the routing from the tel/data closet in Building 16 (B16) to the Data Hub in Building (B5), PBX/Telephone Hub in Building 1 (B1) and the Main Security room in Building 2 (B2). Yes, Note 11 pertain to the entire length of the run from the PBX Telephone Hub to the Building 16 Telecommunications Room. Yes, the 200 pair cable is to be installed in 4" conduit. The 6 strand MM fiber shall be installed from Building 2 to Building 16 Tel/data closet per Note 14.
101.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Ref: ES.101: Is there sufficient space in existing manhole MH9 to install the indicated number of 5" conduits (presumed to be 4 from the Utility Equipment and 9 from the new duct bank to the CHP facility)?	Contractor shall assume there is adequate space to install all 5" conduits.
102.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Ref. ES. 101: Please provide specific details/cross sections of duct bank runs. Note that sections 2A/2B and 3A/3B are not shown. Drawing "EP.602, DETAIL #7" is also not shown.	Detail 7 shall be changed to Detail E1. Detail E1 on drawing EP.602 provides specific details/cross sections of ductbank runs.

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103.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Ref. ES.101: Shall the contractor assume that the new data wire/cabling that is being installed in the existing corridors is below any ceiling architectural finishes (drywall or acoustical tile)? May the new data wire/cabling and/or conduit be supported by the existing utility supports where there is adequate space or where access to the structural attachment above is limited. Some of the corridor ceilings are congested with utilities.	Where ceilings exist conduit shall be installed above ceiling within plenum space. Where ceilings do not exist the conduit shall be installed anywhere between the underside of the deck and the plane of the lowest conduit run within a given space. Existing utility supports may be utilized if they are adequately sized to handle the additional load.
104.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Are we to understand that Section 02 21 00 – Site Surveys applies only to Note 9 on CS.101? This question is not meant to limit survey work required elsewhere, but to limit land title type survey work.	Additional survey work required in association with utility research to connect additional proposed electric ductbank to new load center is not anticipated to trigger land title or boundary type survey work.
105.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Are Water and Air Penetration Testing and an Infrared Roof Scan required per 07 08 00 – Facility Exterior Closure Commissioning paragraphs 3.4.A and 3.4.C given that the facility is unoccupied and extensively louvered?	Yes, noted requirements are required.
106.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Section 23 05 41 is referenced in Section 23 34 00 but could not be found.	Refer to section 23 05 51.
107.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Section 31 20 00 is referenced in Section 26 05 41 but could not be found.	Reference shall be changed to 31 00 00 Earthwork
108.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Note 5 on ES.101 require the Contractor to examine a manhole to see if it is adequately sized to accept additional MV cables prior to the bid. This was not done. Consequently the Contractor assumes that the manhole is adequately sized to accommodate the new design.	Inspection of this manhole is not required.
109.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Are the chilled water pumps tagged as 19-CHP-1 and 19-CHP-2 on MH.601 the same as the chilled water pumps noted on MI.605 as 19-P-3 and 19-P-4?	Yes, this is correct.

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110.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Cooling Tower cells are shown as 20 HP on MH.601 and 40 HP on EP.701. Please confirm HP for the cooling tower cells?	Each cooling tower cell is provided with a 40HP whisper quiet fan.
111.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	What are the horsepower's of the existing pumps CHWP-1 and CHWP-2 identified on MI.605?	150 horsepower.
112.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	EP.702 shows two chilled water pumps, 16A-CHW-P1 and 16A-CHW-P2. Are these the existing chilled water pumps?	Yes, this is correct.
113.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Are the condenser water pumps tagged as 19-CWP-1 and 19-CWP-2 on MH.601 the same as the condenser water pumps noted on MI.606 as 19-P-1 and 19-P-2?	Yes, this is correct.
114.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	MH.601 shows VFD's for 19-GWP-1 and 19-GWP-1A. VFD's are not shown on MI.609. Are VFD's required for these pumps?	Yes, VFD's are required for these pumps as indicated on the schedule.
115.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	EP.702 shows VFD's for 19-GP-1 and 19-GP-2. VFD's serving these pumps are also shown on level 1 on 19-EP.101. These pumps could not be found on the mechanical prints. Are VFD's required for these pumps and if so please confirm the horsepower and voltage for these pumps?	Pumps 19-GP-1 and 19-GP-2 are part of the gas compressor package. VFD's are required and the horsepower and voltage are indicated on drawing EP.702.

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116.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Per specification 23 09 23 – 7, par. F, the control system vendor (23 09 23) is responsible for furnishing the HVAC/Chiller VFD's (which I am assuming means the VFD's serving the fans and pumps). Spec 22 05 11 – 10, par. 2.6.B and spec 23 05 11 -12. Par. 2.7.B both state: "Multiple units of the same class of equipment, i.e. air handlers, fans, pumps, shall be product of a single manufacturer". We interpret this sentence to mean that all HVAC VFD's (pumps and fans) are to be of the same manufacturer. Spec section 23 65 00 (Cooling tower), par. 2.2.G.2.c states that the cooling tower mfg is to provide the VFD's. Spec section 23 21 23 (pumps), par. 2.1.A.5.b states that the pump mfg is to provide the VFD's. In order to accommodate the same VFD mfg (as noted in Spec 22 05 11 – 10, par. 2.6.B and spec 23 05 11 -12. Par. 2.7.B) for all the HVAC equipment it is suggested to have a single entity (such as the controls BAS contractor and/or the Plant control system Integrator) provide all the VFD's for this project. A sole source manufacturer specified (such as ABB whom the VA has purchased and installed numerous VFD's for this site) to standardize and minimize future service related issues may prove to be in the VA's best long term interest.	Refer to question 72

ITEM NO.	DATE QUESTION RECEIVED	DATE QUESTION ANSWERED	QUESTION	GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
117.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Spec 22 15 00 – 8, par. 2.8.I states that the compressor is to come with a full voltage magnetic motor starter. A VFD serving the compressors is shown on EP.701 and 19.MP.101. Do the compressors require VFD's and who is responsible for providing them?	Refer to response to #73.
118.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Spec 48 20 10-21, par.2.5, line 16: HRSG surface blowdown piping and valves to be controlled by remote sampling/control system provided under separate contract. What separate contract and what are the specifications?	Refer to response to #74
119.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	23 09 11-11, G Refers to Section 23 52 39 & 23 52 33, these sections are not in the specifications are they required?	Refer to response #75
120.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	23 09 11-25, 2.4 specifies individual controls panels for boilers. Can the existing Boiler control panels be re-used and modified to comply with the specifications?	Refer to response to #76
121.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	23 09 11-37, B specifies access to transmitters from floor or platform without use of portable ladder. Does this apply to the existing boiler plant transmitters?	Refer to response to #77
122.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	01 42 19, Pg. 1-8 does not reference VA/BEI requirements and/or recommendations as it applies to VA/BEI standards for installation and testing of boiler related components and hardware. Is this standard to apply to this project as a whole? If so, is the existing Boiler Plant to be upgraded to comply with VA/BEI standards and testing.	Refer to response to #78

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123.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Numerous existing old Boiler Plant pieces of equipment and hardware (DA, Condensate tank, Chillers, Cooling Towers, pumps, valves, piping, etc.) are being utilized to supply/back-up the new CHP plant. Is it the responsibility of the awarded contractor to warranty and/or guarantee the ability of the existing pieces of equipment to function thru the construction phases and warranty/guarantee period?	Refer to response to #79
124.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Is it the responsibility of the awarded contractor to determine, if in fact, the design, construction and operation of the existing Boiler Plant complies with specifications, drawings, etc. and will perform as required?	Refer to response to #80
125.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	23 09 11-34, 2.15 BOILER PLANT BUILDING DANGEROUS GAS DETECTION SYSTEM; Is it the intension of the specification to provide and install a new Gas Detection system(s) and/or expand the existing Gas detection system(s)?	Refer to response to #81
126.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Specification Section 48 20 10, paragraph 1.1.B with cross reference to Paragraph 2.3 "Bidder may submit bids based on one of three system arrangements which have been identified herein as Systems #1 through #3." Systems #1 through 3# range from 17,476 lb/hr - 23,344 lb/hr, fired. Why has the client not determined required steam load? Each bidder may offer a bid for different systems, making an apples-to-apples bid comparison infeasible and possibly placing the bidder of a larger system in an unfair competitive situation. How will bids be base-lined so that bidders of different systems are ensured a fair analysis?	Bids will be compared on first cost. Refer to response to #60.

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127.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	In various places, throughout the specifications, the SCR is referred to as an "ammonia" system in the majority of locations. However, specification 48 20 10 paragraph 2.7 states the system is to be a "urea" system. Please confirm SCR reagent.	The SCR utilizes ammonia gas liberated from a urea solution. Stored medium is urea solution. Provide urea as per the drawings.
128.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Specifications do not address HRSG bypass during turbine-only operations. Will the HRSG always be operational when the turbine is in operation? (No diverter???; always flow through HRSG???).	We do not anticipate turbine-only operation – the sequence of operation calls for both thermal and electrical load following. For instances where the thermal load following aspect is being bypassed, the design includes a steam exhaust valve with silencer, which would be utilized to vent excess steam.
129.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	HRSG design concern: The ability to cool the flue gas down to 300 deg. F, with only an economizer; may necessitate a feedwater preheater or some other secondary economizing system to dissipate heat. We do NOT want to design a system that steams the economizer water. Will a higher gas temperature be ok, or do you have make up water or some other process stream which can be used to cool the gas down to 300 deg. F? Please advise.	A 300°F stack temperature is the goal for the project in order to maximize thermal output. If this is not a realistic figure for a HRSG with economizer for the load ranges described in the specifications, the bidder should submit an exception outlining the conditions under which this threshold cannot be reached, and what temperature/thermal output is feasible and it will be taken under advisement
130.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Please confirm that individual trade warranties do not extend the 1-year General Contractor warranty provided by FAR 52.246-21. Sureties will not support General Contractor warranties in excess of 1-year, but numerous specifications reference this FAR clause for longer warranties.	All specified warranty requirements including those in excess of a year are required. The surety bond covers labor which can be limited to the contractor's warranty for one year. The contractor is still required to secure the required manufacture warranties which for many pieces of equipment and systems exceeds this time frame and are delivered to the owner for their benefit for the period in excess of a year.

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131.	8/18/2014	8/20/2014	Will the owner sign the manifest or other required forms as, and be identified as, the generator of all non-contractor generated hazardous material?	Yes. Will need to be coordinated with the VACHS West Haven Safety Office.
132.	8/18/2014	8/22/2014	Bid Submission 2.8 states only 1 hard copy is required. Please confirm 1 original and 1 hard copy are required per the SF1442.	Section 2.8 shall say "only one (1) original bid shall be submitted." Zero copies shall be provided. Section 2.8 and Section 13 of the SF 1442 now both state ZERO copies shall be provided. Only the original bid.
133.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Drawing EP507 shows a 200 pair cable from Building 1 to Building 16 via Building #5 and a 24 strand fiber optic cable from Building 5 to Building 16. Note 12 indicates (4" conduit with 3 1 ¼" innerduct). The note 12 encompasses both cables. Does this mean two 4" conduits with 3-1 ¼" innerduct or one conduit with 2 cables and each cable occupies one of the innerducts?	One conduit with one optical fiber cable in each innerduct and one spare innerduct
134.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Note 12 on ES101 requires us to install a 100 pair cable from Building 1 to Building 16. Is this the same cable as the 200 pair described by note 7 on EP507 or are we responsible for installing a 200 pair and a 100 pair cable from Bldg 1 to Bldg 16? Should note 7 be reworded to incorporate the 200 pair and the 100 pair cables?	No, these are separate runs. Contractor is responsible for installing a 100 pair and a 200 pair cable as noted.
135.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Note 14 on Drawing ES101 is asking for a 6 strand multimode fiber cable from the main security room in Building 2 to Building 16. Is this cable going in an existing conduit, innerduct or exposed plenum rated cable?	Provide 6 strand multimode fiber cable in a new 2" conduit.
136.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Can the engineer provide a conduit and cable schedule for each of the telecommunication cables listed between ES101 and EP507?	Submit wiring diagrams for communication systems in accordance with Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA, AND SAMPLES. Identify terminal points and wiring on wiring diagrams. Wiring diagrams will be reviewed during submittal process.

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137.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Are the chilled water pumps tagged as 19-CHP-1 and 19-CHP-2 on MH.601 the same as the chilled water pumps noted on MI.605 as 19-P-3 and 19-P-4 ?	Refer to response to #65
138.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	What are the horsepowers of the existing pumps CHWP-1 and CHWP-2 identified on MI.605 ?	Refer to response to #66
139.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	EP.702 shows two chilled water pumps, 16A-CHW-P1 and 16A-CHW-P2. Are these the existing chilled water pumps ?	Refer to response to #67
140.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Are the condenser water pumps tagged as 19-CWP-1 and 19-CWP-2 on MH.601 the same as the condenser water pumps noted on MI.606 as 19-P-1 and 19-P-2 ?	Refer to response to #68
141.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	MH.601 shows VFD's for 19-GWP-1 and 19-GWP-1A. VFD's are not shown on MI.609. Are VFD's required for these pumps ?	Refer to response to #69
142.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Cooling Tower cells are shown as 20 HP on MH.601 and 40 HP on EP.701. Please confirm HP for the cooling tower cells ?	Refer to response to #70
143.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	EP.702 shows VFD's for 19-GP-1 and 19-GP-2. VFD's serving these pumps are also shown on level 1 on 19-EP.101. These pumps could not be found on the mechanical prints. Are VFD's required for these pumps and if so please confirm the horsepower and voltage for these pumps ?	Refer to response to #71

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144.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Per specification 23 09 23 – 7, par. F, the control system vendor (23 09 23) is responsible for furnishing the HVAC/Chiller VFD's (which I am assuming means the VFD's serving the fans and pumps). Spec 22 05 11 – 10, par. 2.6.B and spec 23 05 11 -12. Par. 2.7.B both state: "Multiple units of the same class of equipment, i.e. air handlers, fans, pumps, shall be product of a single manufacturer". We interpret this sentence to mean that all HVAC VFD's (pumps and fans) are to be of the same manufacturer. Spec section 23 65 00 (Cooling tower), par. 2.2.G.2.c states that the cooling tower mfg is to provide the VFD's. Spec section 23 21 23 (pumps), par. 2.1.A.5.b states that the pump mfg is to provide the VFD's. In order to accommodate the same VFD mfg (as noted in Spec 22 05 11 – 10, par. 2.6.B and spec 23 05 11 -12. Par. 2.7.B) for all the HVAC equipment it is suggested to have a single entity (such as the controls contractor or the control system vendor) provide all the VFD's for this project.	Refer to response to #72
145.	8/18/2014	8/28/2014	Spec 22 15 00 – 8, par. 2.8.I states that the compressor is to come with a full voltage magnetic motor starter. A VFD serving the compressors is shown on EP.701 and 19.MP.101. Do the compressors require VFD's and who is responsible for providing them?	Refer to response to #73.
146.	8/19/2014	8/28/2014	Do you know when we'll be seeing the information on the isolation transformers that the engineer said were going to be issued after the pre bid?	Refer to addendum No. 1, issued in Amendment No. 4.

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147.	8/22/2014	8/22/2014	I would like to acknowledge the bid Amendments, but I am unclear on the procedure. Are our acknowledgements to be included with our bid package, or are they required to be sent prior to the bid via e-mail or fax?	The amendments are to be acknowledged with the submission of the bid. They can also be signed and attached in addition to acknowledgement on page 2 of the 1442 Form.
148.	8/22/2014	8/22/2014	(ES-101 & EP-501 and Amendment 1 Power Point) In Amendment #1, the power point presentation drawings ES-101 & EP-501 differ from the bid drawing set. The drawings in the power point show added two pad mounted transformers. Please clarify which drawings are correct.	Please reference Addendum 1 posted in Amendment A00004.
149.	8/25/2014	8/28/2014	Now that the PT1 & PT2 isolation transformers appear on the drawings and are located outdoors from the Load Interrupters. Can the size and quantity of conduits be identified from the N-SWGR-1 to the PT1 & PT2 as well as the size and quantity from the PT1 & PT2 to the LI1 & LI2. Note the N-SWGR-1 is at level 3, the LI1 & LI2 are at level 1 and the PT1 & PT2 are outdoors. Also shall Manhole #24 be used to intercept these conduits.	Note 13 indicates the size of conductors and quantity of conduits. Manhole #24 shall not be used to intercept these conduits.
150.	8/25/2014	8/28/2014	Once the size and quantity of conduits have been determined in the question above will the concrete encased ductbank area be large enough to accommodate these additional conduits?	The vertical conduit ductbank shall be increased to 30” x 30” to accommodate all conduits.
151.	8/25/2014	8/28/2014	Detail 3 on the amendment A00005 drawing ES101 shows two cameras on the existing PET Building at Building 1. These CCTV cables are to be routed to the main security room in Building 2. Do these cameras need to be wired with fiber optic cable? Also is the fiber required to be in a conduit raceway system? Can you give an approximate length or show the cable routing on ES101?	1. Yes cameras are to be routed to the main security room in Building 2. 2. Yes, cameras need to be wired with fiber optic cable due to distance. 3. Yes, see Note 18. 4. Approximate length is 1,000 feet.

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152.	8/26/2014	8/28/2014	The drawings are asking for type B manhole which is a 12'6" x 12'-0" x 8'6". These manholes are a custom design which means over $25,000.00 each. The standard UI requirements are 6' x 14' x 7'-6" or 8' x 14' x 7'6". We will be allowed to use a shorter manhole based on the UI standards or should we price the project based on the table shown on EP.603?	Manholes shall be priced based on table shown on EP.603.
153.	8/26/2014	8/28/2014	What is the exact location, size and depth of the water tank at Building B15A?	The tank is 51 feet by 51 feet with a depth of 11 feet. The roof of the tank is supported by nine 17-inch square concrete columns on top of which are 9inch thick by 17inch wide concrete support beams. The support columns are located 11 feet from the outside walls and 13 feet on center. Based on the measured dimensions the tank capacity has been calculated to be 200,000 gallons.
154.	8/26/2014	8/28/2014	What is the exact location, size and contents of the underground storage tank at (east of) Building B15A?	The tank was emptied in 2009.
155.	8/26/2014	8/28/2014	What is the Bottom Footing Elevation of Building B15A?	Building B15A is a modular building which is supported on Steel Beams that span Concrete Piers (shown on 19.SS.101), exact elevation of the footings is not known but given the tank dimensions noted in #153 above, assume footings are as deep as the tank below grade. Note due to the proximity of the footings to the new foundation wall along the 4 line, the adjacent piers that are too close to the construction will need to be temporarily relocated during construction. Refer to drawing 19.SS.101 for additional requirements.

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156.	8/26/2014	8/28/2014	EP.101: Detail F6 Sand and Salt Storage Ceiling Plan, there are six LX7 fixtures shown. However, they are not listed on the Luminaire Schedule. Please advise.	Refer to #44.
157.	8/26/2014	8/28/2014	19.AS.621: Door schedule calls for Hardware set HW-8 at door 19 108A. Under hardware heading HW-8 in the hardware specification 087100-58 it states "all hardware by section 081710, integrated door assemblies." This specification does not exist. Please advise hardware to go at opening 19.108A.	HW Set shall be similar to HW Set #12E plus magnetic door holders (each leaf).
158.	8/26/2014	8/27/2014	Traditionally the FAR 52.211-12 Liquidated Damages is included as part of the solicitation. Please clarify if the project will be subject to Liquidated Damages and if so, please include the referenced FAR Clause and stated amount of Liquidated Damages Please confirm that actual damages are not intended for this project.	Liquidated Damages are NOT part of this solicitation.
159.	8/26/2014	8/27/2014	VAAR 852.236-72 Performance of Work by the Contractor references penalties if contractor does not meet the requirements of FAR 52.236-1 for self-performance. Neither the VAAR or FAR clarify what the self-performance requirement is for this particular project. Please clarify what the self-performance threshold of this project is.	The self-performance threshold is 12%.
160.	8/27/2014	8/28/2014	Please advise if the contract requires the contractor to provide any additional insurance coverages for the purpose of this project. Sections 4.8 and 4.9 of the solicitation are the only areas where I was able to find information relating to insurance requirements.	Please follow the insurance requirements stated in these sections.

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161.	8/28/2014	8/28/2014	We are looking to contact additional subcontractors who meet the small business subcontracting goals (SDVOSB, VOSB, etc) for the Combined Heating & Power Plant at the West Haven CT VA Medical Center. Is there a database we can utilize to find such contractors?	The VA does not provide a list of these contractors. However, please review the Sign In Sheets from the site visits posted to FBO in previous amendments. Contractors can also search the Vendor Information Portal for VOSB and SDVOSB companies in the area.
162.	8/27/2014	8/28/2014	Can you ask the VA if they can provide a current contact for Schneider Electric? Drawing EP-508, Note 8 states to provide integration with the Advanced Utility Metering Systems that are provided by Schneider Electric. The contact listed is not current, telephone number is not in service and the email address rejects emails that are sent to it. The office does not exist in the Schneider Electric information listed on their website.	Jim Plourde Schnieder Electric Energy Solutions National Business Development Manager Tel: 1.603.265.6556 Fax: 1.615.287.3409 Site: www.schneider-Electric.com 295 Tech Park Suite 100, LaVergne, TN 37086

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163.	8/28/2014	9/4/2014	The requirements state that the Contractor must present a General Liability policy without any exclusionary clauses for asbestos. This Contractor has an Asbestos Exclusion on their General Liability policy which is standard practice. This Contractor purchases a $10mm Contractors Pollution Liability policy which covers incidents which stem from asbestos and other pollutants. Will the VA accept liability coverage via a Contractors Pollution Liability Policy rather than through the General Liability Policy?	If the same exact coverage is made through the supplemental coverage in another policy the exclusion will be acceptable. The VA reserves the right to deny exclusion if the coverage is not found to be equal. As to the liability, it the VA's site (incinerator building) and the liability for the hazardous material is with the facility. The facility will account for and oversee the contractor's abatement process. The facility/Safety Office will be responsible for inventory control and required manifest signatures for removal of all hazardous waste from site. The Contractor will be responsible for safe and proper abatement, collection, storage and handling as required to facilitate proper removal and safe disposal.
164.	8/29/2014	9/4/2014	Can you provide drawings of the existing incinerator building foundations scheduled for demolition? If not drawings, then the bottom elevation of the existing footings.	Drawing is attached to Addendum No. 5.
165.	9/2/2014	9/3/2014	Please verify that hand delivery of the bid is acceptable.	Hand delivery is acceptable to the address provided in the solicitation.
166.	9/2/2014	9/5/2014	Is there a flow meter schedule available?	There is a partial meter schedule shown on the CHP plant control diagram. In addition, BAS-related flow meters (chilled water plants, existing and new) are scheduled as BAS points. BAS related meters should be selected by the BAS contractor, and the CHP flow meters will be specified and provided as part of the Plant Controls delegated design.

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167.	9/3/2014	9/4/2014	Detail 24 on Dwg 19.AS.512 shows a beam and column getting 2 Hr intumescent paint. The steel is along D line. Do any other beams or columns get rated by using intumescent fireproofing? Would it just be at this point? Would it go farther ahead or farther back? Is it just at this floor? Or would it be on a floor above or on a floor below?	Steel beams are not typically fire rated, as shown on table 5 on AS.110, however there is a two hour separation between buildings that cannot be made continuous because of the location of the beam which makes the 2 hour wall not continuous to the slab, therefore the beam in this location need to be 2 hour rated to make the separation complete as the wall terminates at the beam. Only the portions of the beam that need to form the separation are required to receive intumescent paint.
168.	9/3/2014	9/4/2014	Is the Fire Protection System integrated into the Hospital with Fire Protection System? If so how?	See revised electric drawing, (EP 506 – Riser Diagrams. Pdf) with change from copper to fiber for fire alarm riser.
169.	9/4/2014	9/4/2014	Also Section C (a) page 10 states that a conference line will be announced via amendment for the bid opening. Will this still be provided prior to bid?	The teleconference line is (800)767-1750 Code: 29694
170.	9/5/2014	9/5/2014	Can you please provide me with the cost per background investigation or the contact information for the Office of Personnel Management?	Badging will be required for the project, but the contractor will not be required to pay for the background checks.