

## VA261-15-B-0127\_HE Chiller

### RFI's and Government Response

**Proposal RFI#1** – Can we submit the following Product Substitution for Perminator 15 MIL.

<http://www.wrmeadows.com/training-videos/perminator-10-mil-and-15-mil-underslab-vapor-barrier-retarder/>

See attached Sub FORM

**RFI #1 response-** This product meets the specification Section 03 30 00, Part 2.1, E, 2 a and is acceptable to use.

**Proposal RFI# 2-** Currently for chilled, condenser and cooling tower piping, the spec's calls for below 2" screwed or welded for above 2" with all welded joints.

However, when we did the bid walk through, all the existing chilled, condenser & cooling tower piping has Victaulic and mechanical grooved pipe joints & fittings.

We would like to utilize Victaulic and grooved pipe joints & fittings for 2" and above mechanical piping in lieu of screwed for 2" below and above 2" welded joints.

Spec- Section-23-21-13 Hydronic piping.

Drawing Plan Sheets: 703-MD-101, 703-MD-102, 703-MH-101, 703-MH-102, MH-602, MH-603, 702-MH-111, 702-MH-112, MH-121.

**RFI #2 Response-** The specifications utilized on this project are based on the US Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Construction & Facilities Management Master Construction Specifications for Veterans Health Administration projects. Per Master Spec 23 21 13 2.3 B, grooved mechanical couplings and fittings are optional for 2-1/2 inches and larger steel pipe. Per Master Spec 23 21 13 2.3 D, Grooved Mechanical Pipe Couplings and Fittings may be used, with cut or roll grooved pipe, in water service up to 230 degrees F in lieu of welded, screwed or flanged connections. All joints must be rigid type.

1. Grooved mechanical couplings: Malleable iron, ASTM A47 or ductile iron, ASTM A536, fabricated in two or more parts, securely held together by two or more track-head, square, or oval-neck bolts, ASTM A449 and A183.
2. Gaskets: Rubber product recommended by the coupling manufacturer for the intended service.
3. Grooved end fittings: Malleable iron, ASTM A47; ductile iron, ASTM A536; or steel, ASTM A53 or A106, designed to accept grooved mechanical couplings. Tap-in type branch connections are acceptable.

**Proposal RFI#3** – Sheet MH-510, Air Separator Schedule, Mark AS-1 (Wessels APSS-112 references 304SS construction. Specification 23 31 14, Part 2.13A specifies “cast iron” construction. We request the VA clarify the intent and provide instructions for item.

**RFI #3 Response-** The model number on the schedule is not correct – AP-112 is the correct basis of design. Wessels Company does not offer the 12” air purger with cast iron construction, instead they offer fabricated steel for 6” and above. Fabricated steel is the correct material.

**Proposal RFI# 4** – Sheet 702-MH-311, Detail 3 – Mechanical HVAC Section – Chilled Water Pumps. Please confirm that ET-1 is existing as marked, and intended to be re-used.

**RFI #4 Response-** The expansion tank ET-1 is existing. This project does not change system volume, temperature, or pressure; therefore, the expansion tank can remain as existing.

**Proposal RFI #5** – Does the contractor provide the temporary chillers?

**RFI #5 Response-** During execution of Phase 1 scope, contractor shall furnish 270 ton air-cooled trailer-mounted chiller, and connect to existing 6” temporary chilled water pipes and power connections. See sheet 703-MH-101. If Phase 1 work is not complete before April 1, 2016 the contractor will need to provide supplemental temporary cooling and power (in addition to the above-referenced 270 tons). The contractor shall be responsible for maintaining equipment and piping arranged such that the plant operators can provide constant chilled water supply temperature of 42°F or less during the entire execution of the project.

**Proposal RFI #6** –Section 23 21 13, Part 2.3 – fittings For Steel Pipe This section does not reference “Grooved Fittings” although these fittings appear to be prevalent in the existing piping. Will grooved pipe and fittings be an acceptable jointing method for this project?

**RFI #6 Response-** The specifications utilized on this project are based on the US Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Construction & Facilities Management Master Construction Specifications for Veterans Health Administration projects. Per Master Spec 23 21 13 2.3 B, grooved mechanical couplings and fittings are optional for 2-1/2 inches and larger steel pipe. Per Master Spec 23 21 13 2.3 D, Grooved Mechanical Pipe Couplings and Fittings may be used, with cut or roll grooved pipe, in water service up to 230 degrees F in lieu of welded, screwed or flanged connections. All joints must be rigid type.

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2. Gaskets: Rubber product recommended by the coupling manufacturer for the intended service.

3. Grooved end fittings: Malleable iron, ASTM A47; ductile iron, ASTM A536; or steel, ASTM A53 or A106, designed to accept grooved mechanical couplings. Tap-in type branch connections are acceptable.

**Proposal RFI #7** –Will Schedule 80 PVC piping be acceptable for the Temporary Chilled water connections?

**RFI #7 Response-** the Temporary Chilled water connections are existing (behind dumpster) out to location for parking trailer. From termination of existing connections to connections on trailer-mounted chiller, hoses are acceptable and are typically provided by the temporary chiller vendor along with the equipment.

**Proposal RFI #8** –Section 01 00 00 – General Requirements, Part 1.1 – D & Section 01 45 29 – Testing Laboratory Services, Part 1.1 states that the Testing Laboratory for this project shall be retained by the VA. Please confirm the VA will hire the Testing Laboratory for this project and that this will not be a cost to the Contractor.

**RFI #8 Response-** The contractor will be responsible for hiring and retaining a testing laboratory for this project. Please see revised Section 01 45 29 – Testing Laboratory Services for clarification.

**Proposal RFI #9** – Section 01 00 00 – General Requirements, Part 1.4 – D-7 states that all electronic information shall be stored in a specific location, using an Engineering Document Management Software (EDMS). Please confirm that this will be a requirement for this project and if so, please provide information that can be accessed by the Contractor to determine the cost and training requirements for this software.

**RFI #9 Response-** EDMS will not be a requirement for this project.

**Proposal RFI #10** – Section 01 00 00 – General Requirements, Part 1.12 – Professional Surveying Services requires the contractor to employ a Professional Land Surveyor for this project. Please confirm this is a requirement for this project and if so, please provide specific information on what is to be surveyed and what is to be represented on any as-built drawings.

**RFI #10 -** A Land Surveyor is not required for this project.

**Proposal RFI #11** – Section 01 00 00 – General Requirements, Part 1.19 – Availability and Use of Utility Services indicates that the Contractor shall install lines and meters to record the electricity use for this project and reimburse the VA for power used. Please confirm this will be a requirement for this Project and that the VA will not provide electricity free of charge as is customary at most stations.

**RFI #11 Response-** The VA will cover the cost of the temporary chiller's electricity. Certain uses of electricity must be metered and paid for by the contractor. This is outlined in Paragraph E of Part 1.19:

E. Electricity (for Construction and Testing): Furnish all temporary electric services.

1. Obtain electricity by connecting to the Medical Center electrical distribution system. The Contractor shall meter and pay for electricity required for electric cranes and hoisting devices, electrical welding devices and any electrical heating devices providing temporary heat. Electricity for all other uses is available at no cost to the Contractor.

**Proposal RFI #12**– Section 01 00 00 – General Requirements, Part 1.26 – Photographic Documentation & Part 1.27 – Final Elevation Digital Images states that the Contractor must hire a Commercial Photographer that meets specified standards, in order to document the specified elements of the project that are listed. Please confirm this will be a requirement for this project and that all Offerors should include the costs for a Commercial Photographer as specified.

**RFI #12 Response-** A Commercial photographer that meets the standards specified in Part 1.26 – Photographic Documentation & Part 1.27 – Final Elevation Digital Images is required for this project. The specific elements listed that require documentation have been clarified in the Revised Section 01 00 00 General Requirements.

**Proposal RFI #13** – Section 01 00 00 – General Requirements, Part 1.28 VA TRIRIGA CPMS states that the awarded contractor is required to get access to the VA TRIRIGA CPMS management collaborative software environment for this project. Please confirm that this software environment will be utilized for this project and that all Contractors should include the costs for licensing, training, and related costs for this system.

**RFI #13 Response-** The software will not be utilized in this project, and the contractor will not be responsible for gaining access to the VA TRIRIGA CPMS.

**Proposal RFI #14** – Section 01 32 16.15 – Project Schedules, Part 1.3 – Contractors Consultant requires the Contractor to employ a scheduling consultant as may be approved or disapproved by the VA. Please confirm that the Contractor will be required to hire, and include the costs for, a third-party Scheduling Consultant for this project and that a Project Manager or other company employee who is skilled with CPM scheduling will not be acceptable.

**RFI #14 Response-** As stated in Section 01 32 16.15, Part 1.2 - Contractor's Representative, the Contractor's Rep. shall have the option of developing the project schedule within their own organization or to engage an outside consultant. It is not a requirement to hire a third party scheduling consultant. Part 1.3 Contractor's Consultant only applies if the appointed contractor's rep. chooses to hire such a consultant.

**Proposal RFI #15** – Section 23 08 00 – Commissioning of HVAC Systems, Part 1.1 states that the Commissioning Agent will be appointed (hired) by the VA. Please confirm the VA will hire the CxA for this project and that this will not be a cost to the Contractor. If this is not the case, please provide Section 01 91 00 – General Commissioning Requirements which is directly related to this Section, and was not provided in this Project Manual.

RFI #15 Response –Section 01 91 00 will be provided. The commissioning agent will be hired by the VA, but the contractor is responsible for coordinating all activities described in section 23 08 00 including materials, labor, and testing materials – see sub-sections 3.1 through 3.5.