

**Questions & Answers  
from the Previous Solicitation Attempt**

1. Can you verify if the sequence of operation will be the following? **Priority listed by alphanumeric sequence (A being first...)**

- A** Visually inspect connectors in all vaults, load interrupters and or transformers before commencement of work
- E** Perform partial discharge test and insulation resistance test of all cabling throughout entire campus
- B** Remove, clean and re-lubricate all load break connectors, J-bars, load interrupters and line side transformer connections as per manufacturer's recommendations/ requirements
- D** Inspect, and test all grounding conductors and connections within the 12kV electrical utility systems
- C** Clean, seal all penetrations to prevent water intrusion and repair/replace fire tape on cabling as needed within vaults and transformers

2. Will a second partial discharge test be required once all service work is accomplished? **Yes.**

3. Is it required to install master grounds on all feeders during outages or just 1 set of master grounds on the main buss during outages? **Grounding clusters required on all feeders in the respective manhole that is being worked on.**

4. Is the contractor required to have (1) Superintendent and (1) SSHO on site full time the work is being accomplished or will (1) competent person suffice? **Yes**

5. Are the required outages to be scheduled during off-hours and/or weekends? **Yes**

6. Please clarify visual inspection of connectors. Is the inspection superficial while the feeder is energized or is it after the feeder de-energized and inspect the internal components of the connectors?

**This can be performed as pre-inspection and can be accomplished with the feeders energized "ONLY AS VISUAL INSPECTION" No person or conductive device shall break the plain of the manhole opening during this phase.**

7. Will the contractor be required to work in a manhole with all feeders de-energized, but only work on one feeder at a time & complete all maintenance work on scheduled feeder? **Yes**

8. Will a scheduled outage be required per feeders (circuits)? If so this means only one circuit can be work on and completed before you start a new one. 8 feeders will amount to 8 outages? Please advise. Scheduled outages shall be requested by the contractor awarded the contract, proposed scheduling shall be submitted to the COR for review and approval. More than one feeder can be worked on at a time as long as the feeders do not supply the same buildings, parallel feeder maintenance provides too high of risk to hospital operations. The existing system is divided into North & South substation feeds; South station has 6 distribution feeds, the North has 2. It is preferred that shutdowns scheduled to perform this work be limited to specific feeders to minimize the impact to the VA hospital. There will be a minimum of 8 shutdowns, but can fluctuate based on staffing, convenience/approval of the VA, and means and methods.

9. Per the statement of work, Section 1: General Information, 1.4 Site Visit, it mentions there will be only one power shutdown for the bid process. Can you clarify that statement? Are we to base our pricing assuming one shutdown to service all feeders at the same time? An outage shall be scheduled for bid walk purposes; this is to provide bidders an opportunity to inspect manholes. Pricing shall be based upon completing the tasks described in the SOW. The existing system is divided into North & South substation feeds; South station has 6 distribution feeds, the North has 2. It is preferred that shutdowns scheduled to perform this work be limited to specific feeders to minimize the impact to the VA hospital. There will be a minimum of 8 shutdowns, but can fluctuate based on staffing, convenience/approval of the VA, and means and methods.

10. Can you confirm that any tagging, tracing or ringing out of medium voltage cable is not necessary on this contract? No not necessary.

11. Can you confirm if the following number of manholes and transformers is correct, configuration of J-Bars and cable size?

+/- (20) Manholes –This is estimated.

+/- (26) Transformers - This is estimated.

(7) 12KV Load Interrupter Knife Switches There is switches at building(s) 7, 100, and 101.

4-Way and 6-Way J-Bars The station has both

Cable Size 2/0, 15KV with 200 AMP Load Breaks Confirmed

12. While performing the Partial Discharge, Insulation – Resistance Test, & Acceptance Test can we test thru all the manholes (circuit) or do we test manhole to manhole, transformer to manhole, switches to manhole? Test thru all manholes (circuit)

13. The cost to replace any Cabling, Connectors, Elbows, J-Bars, Load Interrupters, Transformers ect. are not to be included in this price proposal, strictly servicing equipment will be included.

With COR approval, Contractor to submit in writing a change order to replace any material or equipment that show evidence of immediate failure. Can you please confirm? **There are a limited amount of funds to replace connectors, elbows and J-bars on this contract to make small “on the spot” repairs to keep the feeders operational. Cabling, Load Interrupters Transformers etc. will require a change order and approval of the CO/ COR before commencement of work**

### **Questions & Answers After the Site Visit on the Previous Solicitation**

1. Partial Test on Live Front Switches not allowed by VA? And Testing Agency will not work on any Live Front Energized Equipment. How do we proceed?

**Remove from requirement (7 total live front switches)**

2. Can all Partial Testing be performed during normal working hours?

**No, after hours or weekends**

3. Is Ground Testing to cover only Medium Voltage Equipment, Transformers, & Switches? Or all Equipment?

**All system with 12KV service, from North and South Substations to primary 12kV connections at the oil filled transformers.**

4. All Manholes – (36 Covers) Partial Discharge Testing not possible because location of Load Break Elbows is not easily accessible.

Do you have alternative plan?

**The VA will shut down the feeder so the contractor can install there test equipment, after that the system can be energize to perform the testing.**

5. Is Contractor responsible for generator/s for Temporary Power during outages?

**Only for contractor equipment if needed for performance requirements.**

6. Is Contractor to provide an inventory of 200 Amp Load Break Elbows, Stress Cones, 4 & 6 Way J-Bars? If yes – How Many? **Yes as part of reporting on inspection and maintenance performed, equipment serviced and inspected shall be recorded and reported as part of the requirement SOW. As part of performance, what is the per unit cost for basic repair/replacement of potential failed equipment? What is the lead time for procurement of materials and labor to install replacements? What is the contractor's contingency plan to replace failed equipment?**
7. Ground Test – 2 or 3 point, or can a clamp on Ground Test using a (Meggar Meter) be approved?

**3 point testing**

8. Is Traffic Control Required?

**No, there is no manhole in the street. Basic pedestrian caution barriers may be required.**