

Questions and Responses

Question:

The second document listed in the attachments of the posted solicitation SF1449 has many items which ask question(s) throughout the 48 pages. Do we return the entire 48 pages of this document along with our bid?

Response:

No; offerors can propose pricing in their own format, or by submitting pricing on the solicitation page (Page 7). Offerors that are Corporations can submit FAR Provision 52.209-5, Representation by Corporations Regarding an Unpaid Tax Liability or a Felony Conviction Under any Federal Law, in their own format, or by submitting a completed (appropriate check marked areas) copy of page 31 of the solicitation with their proposal. Offerors that accept all of the terms and conditions of the solicitation and are not proposing any changes can complete page one of the solicitation (Blocks 12, 17 and 30), along with acknowledgement of any amendments (page 7), and submit it with their proposal.

Question:

Do we also need to complete FAR (Provision) 52.212-3? Please advise if we are to submit this form with our bid.

Response:

No; if your business has completed the online provision in the System for Award Management (SAM) and it is accurate for the requirement, submission of the provision with a proposal is not required. If changes to the representations and certifications need to be identified for the solicitation, a copy of FAR provision 52.212-3 should be submitted with an offerors proposal. Offerors must have completed the provision 52.212-3 in SAM before submitting a proposal to be considered for the solicitation.

Question:

Need clarification of 2.4, annual tube cleaning requirements

Annual tube cleaning for one (1) Nebraska water tube boiler at Temple, clean waterside of tubes

Annual tube cleaning for one (1) Superior Firetube boiler at Waco, brushing tubes with soot-vac

One (1) boiler once every three (3) years at each site on a rotating basis

2.5.1.8 – Contractor shall update all Autoflame software to most current version

The Mark6 controllers do not have any new updated software available

Response:

The text in the Statement of Work has been revised for these concerns.

Question:

Why are the Dallas and Bonham VA advertised as full and open competition individually, but Temple and Waco which are combines are not?

Response:

The Dallas VAMC and Bonham VC use different fund control points. A review of the Dallas VAMC requirement revealed that only GSA FSS holders were considered for solicitation. The Central Texas Temple and Waco locations are using the same fund control point. Market research through a Federal Business Opportunities sources sought notice (VA257-16-N-0448)

for this requirement identified that several small business Contractors were interested in the requirement.

Question:

Do bidders know that they need all the stamps required to work on pressure vessels and code piping?

Response:

The text in the Statement of Work has been revised to include the Contractor requirement to have a certificate of authorization and an “R” symbol stamp granted from the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors.

Question:

Do all bidders know that all testing needs to be in accordance with BEI testing procedures?

Response:

The VHA Boiler Plant Safety Device Testing Manual, third edition, is a copyrighted publication that the requesting activity did not get written permission to publish along with this requirement prior to the release of the solicitation. References to the BEI, LLC publication in the Statement of Work were omitted due to copyright restrictions. Written permission to publish the manual has since been granted by BEI, LLC and will be added as reference in the revised Statement of Work and as an attachment in the solicitation.

Question:

Is this solicitation still 100% set-aside for Small Business only?

Response:

Correspondence with the small business Contractors that expressed interest through the FBO sources sought notice for this requirement indicates that they do not possess a certificate of authorization and an “R” symbol stamp from the National Board of Boiler and Pressure Vessel Inspectors. Text in the solicitation amendment will ask that all small businesses respond by 25 February for their intent with compliance with the requirement. If an insufficient number of small businesses do not respond by the deadline, the solicitation will be extended and changed to unrestricted full and open competition.