

**SCOPE OF WORK
LEGIONELLA TESTING SERVICES
VA NORTH TEXAS VETERANS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM**

1. BACKGROUND

VHA Directive 1061 dated August 13, 2014 requires hot and cold water samples from ten (10) different points from each building to be analyzed each fiscal quarter.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

The Contractor shall provide testing of water samples for *Legionella* in accordance with VHA Directive 1061, for the following facilities:

- Dallas VA Medical Center
4500 S Lancaster Rd.
Dallas, TX 75216-7167

An acute care medical campus comprised of multiple buildings, each served by a separate cold water and hot water system:

- Bldg 1, 6-floor, 40-bed mental health building
- Building 2, 10-floor, 211-bed acute care hospital
- Bldg 2J (Clinical Addition), 7-floor, 75-bed acute care hospital
- Bldg 60, single-story, 135-bed community living center and hospice care
- Bldg 74 (Spinal Cord Injury Center), 2-story, 30-bed spinal cord injury center including a treatment pool
- VANTHCS Fisher House, 2-story, 21-bed, patient and visitor overnight stay facility
- Municipal water supplied by Dallas Water Utilities which uses monochloramine as the primary disinfectant.

- Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center
1201 E 9th St.
Bonham, TX 75418-4059

An acute care medical campus comprised of multiple buildings, each served by a separate cold water and hot water system:

- Bldg 24, 2-story, 224-bed mental health domiciliary
- Bldg 29, single-story, 116-bed long-term care facility
- Municipal water supplied by North Texas Municipal Water District's Bonham Water Treatment Plant which uses monochloramine as the primary disinfectant.

3. TASK SPECIFICATIONS

Water Sampling and Laboratory Testing

Contractor shall perform quarterly testing of ten (10) distal points from cold water outlets and ten (10) distal points from hot water outlets in each monitored building. For the purposes of distal point testing, the Hospice Wing in Bldg. 60 is supplied by a separate hot water system and requires testing of ten (10) hot water and ten (10) cold water distal points in the Hospice Wing; for a total of forty (40) distal points in Bldg. 60. The Contractor shall provide personnel, all testing material not limited to bottles or containers, preservatives, neutralizers, labels and overnight shipping for up to two hundred and ten (210) water samples per fiscal quarter [180 samples per quarter are required]. The VA medical center will provide an escort familiar with the buildings. Contractor will ship the samples overnight to a laboratory that is qualified for testing, as listed below. The Contractor shall provide the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) with the tracking number and a copy of the chain of custody for each shipment. Contractor shall document the following parameters for each sample on the Chain of Custody document:

- Unique sample identification number
- Source - hot or cold water
- Type of fixture (double-handled, lever-handled, sensor)
- Temperature
- Level of residual biocide
- pH

Laboratory must be certified by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Environmental *Legionella* Techniques Evaluation (ELITE) program or the Public Health England (PHE) *Legionella* External Quality Assessment (EQA) scheme as proficient at performing the culture of *Legionella* from environmental samples. Laboratory must also be able to determine if the *Legionella* detected in the environmental sample is the species *Legionella pneumophila* serogroup 1. Rapid testing methods, such as *polymerase chain reaction (PCR)* and *direct fluorescent antibody (DFA)* are not acceptable for this program.

The laboratory shall store all positive *Legionella* results for later molecular typing to characterize the environmental *Legionella* isolate for a period of three (3) years.

Contractor shall submit reports within fourteen calendar days of sample receipt to:

VA North Texas Health Care System
Chief Engineering Services (ENG 138)
4500 S Lancaster Rd.
Dallas, TX 75216.

Reports may be submitted electronically to the Contracting Officers Representative (COR).

Re-Testing

In the event of a positive, or multiple positive results, the VA may take remediation actions to remove the source of contamination. After remediation efforts have been taken the VA will require re-testing of the distal point that had a positive result. The Contractor shall perform re-testing of the distal point that was identified with a positive result within seven days after a

request by the COR. An estimated thirty (30) samples per quarter are reserved for re-testing services. Unused estimated re-testing quantities may be carried over to other quarters throughout an annual period of performance. At the option of the Contractor, the Contractor's sampling materials for re-testing may be left with VA personnel for sample gathering for re-testing efforts. For those re-testing samples that are gathered by VA personnel, the COR will contact the Contractor for disposition of shipping the samples to the Contractor's testing laboratory.

4. GOVERNMENT SPECIFICATIONS

Information Systems Officer, Information Protection: The Contractor will not have access to VA Desktop computers nor will they have access to online resources belonging to the government while conducting services.

The COR and the Contractor will assure that-

- A. No other information except what is in this contract will be shared with the contractor in any follow up communication.
- B. None of the information in this contract includes Protected Health Information (PHI) or Individually Identifiable Information (III).

Privacy Officer: The Contractor will not have access to Patient Health Information (PHI) nor will they have the capability of accessing patient information during the services provided to the VA.

Records Management:

- i. Citations to pertinent laws, codes and regulations such as 4 U.S.C. Chapter 21, 29, 31 and 33; Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552); Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a); 36 CFR Part 1222 and Part 1228.
- ii. Contractor shall treat all deliverables under the contract as the property of the U.S. Government for which the Government Agency shall have unlimited rights to use, dispose of, or disclose such data contained therein as it determines to be in public interest.
- iii. Contractor shall not create or maintain any records that are not specifically tied to or authorized by the contract using Government 'IT' equipment and/or Government records.
- iv. Contractor shall not retain, use, sell or disseminate copies of any deliverable that contains information covered by the Privacy Act of 1974 or that which is generally protected by the Freedom of Information Act.
- v. Contractor shall not create or maintain any records containing any Government Agency records that are not specifically tied to or authorized by the contract or identified in the RCS10-1.

- vi. The Government Agency owns the rights to all data/records produced as part of this contract.
- vii. The Government Agency owns the rights to all electronic information (electronic data, electronic information systems, electronic databases, etc.) and all supporting documentation created as part of this contract. Contractor must deliver sufficient technical documentation with all data deliverables to permit the agency to use the data.
- viii. Contractor agrees to comply with Federal and Agency records management policies, including those policies associated with safeguarding of records covered by the Privacy Act of 1974. These policies include the preservation of all records created or received regardless of format [paper, electronic, etc.] or mode of transmission [e-mail, fax, etc.] or state of completion [draft, final, etc.].
- ix. No disposition of documents will be allowed without the prior written consent of the Contracting Officer. The Agency and its contractors are responsible for preventing the alienation or unauthorized destruction of records, including all forms of mutilation. Willful and unlawful destruction, damage or alienation of Federal records is subject to the fines and penalties imposed by U.S.C. 2701. Records may not be removed from the legal custody of the Agency or destroyed without regard to the provisions of the agency records schedules.
- x. Contractor is required to obtain the Contracting Officer's approval prior to engaging in any contractual relationship (sub-contractor) in support of this contract requiring the disclosure of information, documentary material and/or records generated under or relating to this contract. The Contractor (and any sub-contractor) is required to abide by Government and Agency guidance for protecting sensitive and proprietary information.

5. GOVERNMENT FURNISHED EQUIPMENT

NONE

Text that has been revised is identified with a bold right side border