

Solicitation VA249-17-R-0009 “Abate Asbestos in Crawl Spaces”

Questions - Answers

1. Question - Section 01 00 00, 1.6 Operations & Storage, G Phasing has a Phase I with no information. Phase II says Building No. 20 will be vacated by the Government in accordance with the above Phasing beginning immediately after date of receipt of NTP. Can you give any additional information on the Phasing plan since some of it is missing from the specifications?

Answer - This information is a typo and needs to be disregarded. The phasing depends on contractor approved scheduling.

2. Question - On page 5 of 56 of the solicitation only one (1) bid item is listed, however, on page 6 of 304 of the specifications, 1.3 statements of bid items, three (3) separate bid items are listed. Please clarify.

Answer - There should only be 1 bid item. The 3 items you refer to in the specifications are combined to make up the 1 bid item.

3. Question - Contractors will not be allowed to utilize VA electrical or water systems per General Note #4. Can you confirm that the contractor will, in fact, not be allowed to use water supplied by the VA?

Answer - Confirmed. Contractor to supply their own utilities.

4. Question - Is air monitoring required continuously, 24 hours per day, after the start of abatement? Or, is air monitoring only required during working shifts? Please clarify.

Answer - There must be continuous air monitoring while active abatement. Refer to KDAQ (Kentucky Division of Air Quality) standards for abatement.

5. Question - Abandon obsolete equipment and building material were observed in the crawlspaces examined during the site visit. Quantities of equipment/materials (including items such as sinks, toilets, and various outdated supplies) to be removed were not established in the specifications. As such, how will removal and waste disposal of this equipment/material be handled should the contractor repeatedly encounter this condition?

Answer - VA will remove the material from the floor if it interferes with the installation of the concrete floor cap. Otherwise, it will be cleaned of asbestos and remain in place.

6. Question - We were not able to visit every location within the scope of work during the site visit. Can a second site visit be scheduled so that we can physically examine all areas included in the scope of work?

Answer – Site visit conducted on 5 December, 2016. All appropriate areas within scope were reviewed. All contractors had the option of attending as well as requesting escort to any additional areas that were not reviewed. Another formal site visit will not be held prior to award. All contractors had equal and ample opportunity to review all areas within scope.

7. Question - Please confirm that negative pressure must be maintained at all times in abatement areas (nights, weekends etc.)

Answer - Prior to the start of the abatement and until the final air clearance has been completed and approved, negative pressure must be maintained at all times. Refer to KDAQ standards for abatement.

8. Question - Are there noise restrictions for any of the buildings we will be working in? If so, can you identify which buildings, and what type of restrictions?

Answer - B-27 and B-29 have patients 24/7. Noise after 1900 is not permitted.

9. Question - Specification Section 02.82.11-7 Connector 16-17 says there is approximately 580sf of soil to be encapsulated, on Drawing HA01CI says there is 1,660sf of surface area. Which number are we to use?

Answer - 1,660 sf

10. Question - Can you provide the outside dimension of each building?

Answer - This is not required for proposal.

11. Question - Will we need a construction fence perimeter at the Work Staging Area?

Answer - See 01 00 00 1.6.I

12. Question - Will the schedule submitted in the proposal be required to include Cost Loaded Task Items?

Answer – Schedule submitted for proposal doesn't have to be cost-loaded, contract can submit cost-loaded schedule if so desired.

13. Question - When is Award expected to be issued?

Answer – NLT 3 weeks after proposals are submitted, preferably before 1 Jan, 2017 if possible.

14. Question - Is there a critical start date?

Answer - No

15. Question - Is there any time periods where we are not allowed to work other than Federal Holidays?

Answer - See 01 00 00 1.6.F

16. Question - Will we be able to work 10-12 hour days if desired by the Prime/Subcontractors, to include weekends?

Answer - See 01 00 00 1.6.F

17. Question - Can you provide details of all crawlspace access points for each building as it relates to access of materials, labor and mobilization to each building?

Answer - Access points for each building are identified on the design drawings.

18. Question - Is the VA providing any air testing or outside over sight?

Answer - The contractor is to provide 3rd party air monitoring. VA has the option of conducting additional air monitoring as deemed necessary. VA will review all monitoring conducted. The main air monitoring will be conducted by the 3rd party air monitoring contractor who is not associated with the abatement company. The abatement company is also required to complete exposure assessment air monitoring on their employees per EPA/OSHA which is separate from the 3rd party air monitoring contractor.

19. Question - Are there crawlspace ventilation vents within each crawlspace? If so, how many and where are they located?

Answer – Yes, varies by building.

20. Question - In section 02 82 11 – Traditional asbestos abatement, it is mentioned in the 3.6 FINAL VISUAL INSPECTION AND AIR CLEARANCE TESTING, that the Contractor's third party monitor will collect the final air clearance sections but in Section 02 82 13 – Glove bag asbestos abatement, it is mentioned in the 3.7 FINAL VISUAL INSPECTIONS AND AIR CLEARANCE TESTING, that the VPIH will collect the final air clearance samples. Please clarify if VPIH will be collecting finals for both methods or contractor's third party monitor will collect the final samples.

Answer - Contractor's third party monitor will collect and analyze all air samples.

21. Question - Can the prime be allowed to perform the 3rd party monitoring if the prime wins the project and sub-contracts an asbestos abatement company to perform asbestos abatement and encapsulation?

Answer - No

22. Question - Does the third party air monitoring company is required to be on-site for all days that the abatement is taking place?

Answer – Yes. Refer to KDAQ standards for abatement.

23. Question - Does the clearance sampling require to be performed using TEM samples?

Answer - YES

24. Question - Will the VA be employing an air monitoring company to oversee the abatement work? ‘

Answer - Contractor’s third party monitor will collect and analyze all air samples. The VA reserves the right to conduct additional air monitoring as deemed necessary.

25. Question - Will the VA allow the use of Vacuum Truck to be used to abate contaminated soil in the crawl spaces?

Answer - Removing contaminated soil is not part of the bid documents. A vacuum truck is a means and methods solution that will allow to be proposed.