

RFI/QUESTIONS

1. Electrical design has not been provided. Please provide electrical design (Electrical plan sheets) including name and location of the existing electrical panel and circuit(s) being reutilized to all bidders by amendment.

Answer: Refer to #15

2. Specification 23 73 00 includes paragraph 2.1.I Plenum Fans - Single and/or Multiple Fans in an Array. Is the new AHU required to be Multiple Fans in an Array, or is Single Fan acceptable?

Answer: A single fan is acceptable but it must be a plenum type fan.

3. Specification 23 73 00 includes paragraph 2.1.I.3 which states "The plenum fans shall be driven by variable speed drives with at least one back-up drive as shown in the design documents. Use of a drive with bypass is not permitted." Please clarify/ verify to all bidders if at least one back-up drive will be required and that use of a drive with bypass will not be permitted."

Answer: Unless Veterans Affairs personnel deem it unnecessary, a backup drive is required.

4. Specification section 01 33 23 -4 paragraph 1-10 states to send samples, shop drawings, test reports, certificates and manufacturer's literature and data, shall be submitted for approval to: Fratto Engineering, Attention: Mark Fratto, 2201 N. Collins Street, Suite 295, Arlington, TX 76011..." Please clarify if emailed submittals will suffice in lieu of mailing hard copies or if mailing fees associated with mailing submittals should be included in bidder's proposals.

Answer: Unless Veterans Affairs personnel require hard copies, email submittals and correspondence is acceptable to Fratto Engineering.

VA Response: The VA is fine with emailed copies, however submittals with many pages (15 or more) need to be submitted in hard copies.

5. Keynote 3 on mechanical drawing M1 states "The expected method of equipment egress/ingress to the interstitial space is by removing the exterior intake louver and if necessary enlarging the opening." Please provide architectural design details showing exterior wall selective demo and patch back requirements to all bidders by amendment.

Answer: Architect has stated that this is not necessary. The louver and wall shall be returned to the same state it is in prior to any work being done.

6. Please indicate if a laydown area will be allowed adjacent to the exterior wall (closest spot to AHU louver above).

Answer: A fenced off area will be required for safety reason for the removal of the unit through the louver. This same area can double as the lay down area but there will not be another area provided.

7. If there are any spaces served by the existing AHU being replaced that must remain conditioned (cooled / heated), please identify these areas and their requirements in detail pre-bid to all bidders by amendment.

Answer: No, the area will not be required to remain conditioned during construction.

8. Please confirm the 120 days completion period will start after approved submittals have been received and after AHU's are delivered to the site.

Answer: No, the 180 days will begin at issuance of the NTP.

9. Please clarify what room number the pre-bid meeting / site visit will be held in.

Answer: This information was provided in Amendment A00002

10. Is this for an existing BSL-3 or are you remodeling/building a new one?

Answer: Existing

11. Infection Control: Please provide a project-specific Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA) for this project. Specific infection control measures that the VA will require the Contractor to implement must be stated so we know what to bid. At the site visit, a statement was made that the only requirement likely would be to seal off existing ductwork after equipment is removed during demolition. Please confirm.

Answer: Refer to specification sections 01 00 04 Infection Control Procedures and 01 00 05 SOP #28 Infection Control Standards provided in the specifications. The VA will need to advise which level of Infection Control this project is.

VA Response: This will meet level 2 IC measures.

12. Standard Form 1442 requires the contractor to provide a bid guarantee with its bid yet there is no requirement to provide performance and payment bonds. We believe this to be incorrect. Please review.

Answer: Both will need to be provided. Change Block #12 of the Standard Form 1442 to read: Yes.

13. Contract Performance Period. Once the equipment is on site, 120 days should be a sufficient amount of time to complete the project. However, if the intent is to complete the project within 120 days after the NTP is issued whereby time is not allowed for submittal preparation, submittal approval, equipment fabrication and delivery, 120 calendar days is not enough time to complete the project. Please consider: 1) issuing the NTP after equipment is delivered to the site, or 2) changing the performance period to 204 calendar days and issuing the NTP after approved equipment submittals are received back from the VA.

Answer: 180 days will begin at the issuance of the NTP.

14. Drawing No. G001 is shown on the List of Drawings, but it was not provided. Please provide Drawing No. G001.

Answer: G001 is being provided. (See attachment)

15. Electrical Drawings: There are no engineered electrical drawings or statement of work concerning the electrical portion of this project. Will drawings and specifications be provided to indicate what is required? If not, please provide a detailed written description of all electrical work involved and required.

Answer: According to previous design drawings dated July 2005, the existing unit is served by a 20A breaker in Panel E1W. That is the correct breaker size for the new AHU. Contractor shall verify that a 20A breaker is installed. The existing circuit shall be re-used for the new AHU.

16. Temporary AHU: Will the contractor be required to provide a temporary AHU while existing equipment is being removed and new equipment is being installed?

Answer: No.

17. Drawing M1, Plan of Action: Drawing M1, Note 3, states, "The contractor will provide specific details explaining the plan of action as part of their bid including.....the building" If this is required, where in the bid package should it be included? We would suggest that this be a required submittal after award.

Answer: Yes, this can be submitted as submittal after award.

18. Description of Services, Paragraph 7: Please define what is required by the statement, "The General Contractor shall follow the Construction phases of contract administration for project to include.....".

Answer: This refers to Life Safety Measures as well as any rerouting of traffic (Vehicular or Pedestrian) and erection of barriers and fences in order to complete the work. This also is not limited to but includes any utility shutdowns and the proper coordination of such.

19. Laydown Area / Outside Work Area: Will the VA afford the contractor a laydown area just outside the building and adjacent to the louver which will be the equipment access point to the interstitial? If so, please provide approximate size of the laydown area. Will the contractor be required to install temporary fencing and barricades if a laydown area is provided?

Answer: The area adjacent to the louver will be required to be fenced off for safety purposes and measures. If the contractor would like to use a portion of this space to double as a laydown area that is acceptable to the VA so long as no safety violations result from it. This area must also stay neat and secure. An area of approximately 1000 SF will be allowed, extended ~25 feet of the louver wall and running 90 degrees back to the adjacent brick fence. Contractor must provide their own fencing and barriers.

20. At the site visit, there appeared to be a large MRI Trailer parked adjacent to where the exterior wall opening is located. Will the MRI Trailer be removed prior to construction?

Answer: Yes the trailer will be moved in the next couple weeks.

21. Bid date is currently scheduled for Good Friday, which is a holiday. Can the bid date be moved forward or back to avoid the holiday?

Answer: Amendment A00003 was issued changing the bid closing date to Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 11:00 DST.

22. Provide electrical drawings

Answer: Refer to #15.

23. Provide make and model of current electrical panel

Answer: Refer to #15.

24. Electrical panel is not shown on construction documents / shown during the site visit- will the existing electrical panels/ components sustain new equipment loads and electrical requirements.

Answer: Electrical panel and circuit should be adequate, refer to #15.

25. Will the BSL-3 Lab be vacated?

Answer: No.

26. Provide pictures of above ceiling tile in BSL-3 Lab

Answer: It is a hard ceiling, no ceiling tile.

27. Drawing - MO – GN -16 Install new, clean pre and post filters in air handling unit serving the renovated areas. Provide existing sizes of filters for air handling units to be replaced.

Answer: Only the air handling unit being replaced is involved.

28. Procurement of 120 days does not seem reasonable as the submittal process and approval from VA is estimated 45 days or more once new unit is approved could take at least 10 weeks for order and delivery

Answer: Period of Performance has been changed to 180 days.

29. SOW – I.7 General contractor shall follow the construction phases of contract administration for the project to include ILSM. How many phases of work are there?

Answer: Only 1 phase as far as FEI is aware.

30. Please provide specification for firestopping at new penetrations and at fire walls

Answer: Apart from removing and reinstalling the louver at the exterior wall there should be no other new penetrations. We are unaware of any new penetrations requiring firestopping.

31. Are there any Environmental Hazardous conditions expected on this Project? LBP or ACM. Will the VA be issuing a copy of the asbestos survey report for contractors use to determine areas of interest?

Answer: This area is of newer construction and should not contain any ACM or LBP.

32. Will daily operations require an interstitial / confined space permit?

Answer: Yes.

33. Prior to commencing work inside the interstitial will a full containment under negative pressure be required for the HVAC requirements please clarify?

Answer: No.

34. Can section traffic be blocked off during construction at the Mammo Van location site?

Answer: No.

35. Can an equipment / personnel scaffold be erected and used as an entry / exit point to the construction thru the exterior intake louver?

Answer: Yes as long as a scaffold plan is submitted and approved by our safety office.

36. What are the expectations on T&B on the existing mechanical equipment / existing duct?

Answer: Full Test and Balance on the entire BSL-3 system per the Specification.

37. Is this for an existing BSL-3 or are you remodeling/building a new one?

Answer: Existing.