

VA Project: 695-12-118

Replace Electrical Substation

RFI's from Contractors

Received By AE\_VA Team: 8-28-12

Responded: 8-29-12

1. Cannot find any specifications pertaining to landscape. Can you please tell me if there are any we should be following and if so where I could locate those?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *See specification section 32 90 00 PLANTING*
2. E100 references Spec. Section 26 10 00 in the notes, but there is not a spec. section in the documents. Will Spec. Section 26 10 00 be issued?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Sheet E100 shall reference specification section 26 13 00 in lieu of 26 10 00.*
3. E100 General Note 3 states to tie fire alarm into existing system in building 113. What conduit system will this wiring go into? The size and quantity is conflicting per drawings as also for the location of the existing fire alarm panel.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Provide 1-1/4" schedule 40 PVC conduit in same ductbank of (2) 4" conduits, routed from new Building 115 to existing Building 113 as indicated on ES100.*
4. ES100 plan note states to "Provide (2) 2" conduits encased in concrete for communications and control wiring between B113 and new B115." Y100 plan note states "New 4" conduit for fiber installed by Electrical Contractor." Which note is correct?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Refer to plans dated 30 July 2012, provide (2) 4" conduits.*
5. ES100 There are spare conduits shown in the existing building 115 vault for the feeder to get from existing panel EDH-106-LS-1 in building 111 to the existing building 115 west cable vault. Are they accessible at the existing building 111side?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Provide new feeder from Life Safety Panelboard located on Mechanical Mezzanine of Building 113 above the graphics center, in lieu of panel indicated on Online Drawing E701. Route feeder conduit in same ductbank of (2) 4" conduits, routed from new Building 115 to existing Building 113 as indicated on ES100.*
6. Q. ES100 Should there be a conduit added to the new duct bank between existing building 115 west cable vault to the new building 115 for the EDH-106-LS-1 100amp feeder?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Provide new feeder from Life Safety Panelboard located on Mechanical Mezzanine of Building 113 above the graphics center, in lieu of panel indicated on Online Drawing E701. Route feeder conduit in same ductbank of (2) 4" conduits, routed from new Building 115 to existing Building 113 as indicated on ES100.*
7. Q. Y100 Detail 3 shows the conduit for the interduct. Should there be another conduit shown for the card access #18/4 conductor cable per plan note 5?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Yes contractor shall provide 1-1/4" schedule 40 PVC conduit in same ductbank of (2) 4" conduits, routed from new Building 115 to existing Building 113 as indicated on ES100.*
8. Q. ES100 Shows one duct bank for the feeder to the transformers #1, 2, 3, and 4 in building 111. Document VA69D-12-B-0955 page 11 of 54 states that the feeders to be in two separate duct banks at least five feet apart. Which is correct?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *ES100 showing one duct bank for the feeders to transformers #1, 2, 3, and 4 in building 111 is correct.*

9. Refer to the one line diagram on sheet #E701: The one line shows to bring a life safety circuit from Bldg #111 panel #EDH-106-LS-1 to the new medium voltage switch gear in new Bldg #115. Do you have a proposed route for this? There are no spare conduits between Bldg #111 and the existing electrical vault outside existing Bldg #115.

**AE\_VA Response:** *Provide new feeder from Life Safety Panelboard located on Mechanical Mezzanine of Building 113 above the graphics center, in lieu of panel indicated on Online Drawing E701. Route feeder conduit in same ductbank of (2) 4" conduits, routed from new Building 115 to existing Building 113 as indicated on ES100.*

10. Will there be a pre bid meeting for the building 115 project? If not I would like to walk down existing conditions this week whenever it is convenient for you. Please let me know.

**AE\_VA Response:** *This has taken place at the project location.*

11. We have been requested to provide a proposal for the medium voltage substation replacement project switchgear for the above referenced project and have identified a portion of the specification that requires a proprietary software integration that is only available from one manufacturer. Specification 26 09 13 Paragraph 1.1 B severely limits any and all competing manufacturers from preparing a competitive bid for this project.

Currently the contract documents are structured so that Eaton/Cutler Hammer is the only manufacturer that can provide a complete price for this project because of the necessary modifications that are required to their proprietary Power Xpert Software to integrate the new equipment. We would like to request that the proprietary software licensing and software integration portion included in Part 1 of Specification 26 09 13 be considered as a separate price listed as either an allowance or a line item price listed on the contract documents bid schedule. This will enable all other manufactures to provide a competitive price for the equipment as specified and intended by the electrical consulting engineer.

Please let me know if this is acceptable or if there is any additional information that you may need from us to assist with processing this request.

**AE\_VA Response:** *The bidding Contractor shall be responsible for providing a complete package as indicated on the plans and in the specifications. How this is accomplished is the responsibility of the bidding contractor.*

12. In the Communications, Fire Alarm and Security section of the SOW description (page 12), the second item in this description states that a "fiber optic link to building 111 or category 6 cable connection shall be provided between the switchgear building and the nearest telcom closet in building 111."

**AE\_VA Response:** *Per JCI the fiber link to Building 111 is to be provided as part of separate project.*

13. On the drawings, (Y100), plan note #3 calls for 3 fiber optic cables to be installed from the wall mounted lockable cabinet in new switchgear building to the wall mounted cabinet in building 113(Graphics) with no mention of or details shown for cabling (fiber or copper) to building 111.

**AE\_VA Response:** *Per JCI the fiber link to Building 111 is to be provided as part of separate project.*

14. Is there any link (fiber and/or copper) needed between the new switchgear building or building 113 and building 111? If a link is needed, please state exactly what type of link (fiber and/or copper) and where in building 111 the link(s) need to end up. In a phone conversation with Brian Jakobs on 8/16/2012, he stated that he was not aware of any

**AE\_VA Response:** *Per JCI the fiber link to Building 111 is to be provided as part of separate project.*

15. VA owned fiber optic cable that is in the footprint of the new switchgear building as shown on drawing Y100, detail 2, Site Plan-Technology.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *The design team had two meetings with Brian J. At the first one he stated that he did not think there was cable, at the second meeting with the site plan Brian verified the cables existence. The contractor shall assume the cable exists.*
16. Is this fiber cable owned by someone other than the VA? If so, whom?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *The cable was confirmed by Brian J. that it is VA owned.*
17. Based on the above phone conversation with Brian, there is a possibility that this fiber cable does not exist. Should the Technology Contractor still include the cost for "Sequence of Events for Fiber Install" in their proposal?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *The contractor shall assume the cable exists and include cost.*
18. Which document should be followed for Division 270000 work, VA69D-12-B-0955-003.PDF or VA69D-12-B-0955-004.XLSX?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *The contractor shall follow VA69D-12-B-0955-004.XLSX for Division 27 00 work.*  
**AE\_VAAE\_VA**
19. Detail #4, on drawing Y100, shows the CCTV Riser as a stand alone system with recording capability via the DVR that is to located in the wall mounted lockable cabinet in the new switchgear building. Does this system need to be controlled by and transmit images to the VA Police Main Security Station in building 111?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *THERE IS NO FIBER LINK BETWEEN BUILDING 111 AND THE VIDEO SYSTEM. PER DISCUSSIONS AND MEETINGS WITH BRIAN J AND JCI THIS LINK WILL NEED TO BE PART OF A SEPARATE PROJECT.*
20. If the CCTV in Bldg. 115 system does need to be controlled and viewed by the VA Police at the main security station in Bldg.111, what are the cabling requirements from Bldg. 115 (new switchgear building) to Bldg.111?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *NOT PART OF SCOPE FOR THIS PROJECT*
21. Are the phone extension, wall mounted cabinet and card reader expansion panel in Bldg.115 being installed on the ground floor level or the cable vault level?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Ground Level as shown on plans.*
22. On drawing Y100, detail # 1, only card readers are shown for doors 100.1 and 100.2. Do these doors need additional devices such as electric door strikes, door contacts, request to exit.....etc?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *PER DETAIL 5 AND JCI MEETINGS THESE LOCATIONS SHALL BE INSTALLED PER DETAIL 5 WITH LOCK CONTROL, DOOR POSITION SWITCH AND ELECTRONIC DOOR HARDWARE*
23. Refer to sheet ES100 Detail #2/Electrical Site Plan. Please clarify how the communication duct back is to terminate at existing Building #113. Is the intent to have the two 2in conduits 90 up at the exterior side of building #113 and then core into Building #113 Switchgear Room? Or is the intent to go through the foundation of Building #113 and enter inside Switchgear room?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Refer to plans dated 30 July 2012, (2) 4" conduits shall terminate at existing communication junction box located on exterior of Building 113.*
24. Refer to sheet EY100 Detail #2/Site Plan – Technology. There is a note that states the electrical contractor is installing a new 4in conduit between an existing pull box on the outside of Bldg #113 to new Bldg #115. Is this conduit in addition to the two 2in conduits noted above in item #1. If so, the conduit sizes and quantity called out to be installed do not match.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Refer to plans dated 30 July 2012, provide as (2) 4" conduits.*

25. Refer to sheet ES100 Detail #3/Sectionalizing Cabinet Layout. Please provide drawing/detail of proposed "30in high concrete pedestal" that the cabinets sit atop. The front view detail states to refer to the structural drawings but there is nothing shown on the structural drawings for these precast pedestals. In looking at the side view and the front view it appears that this will be an enclosed box. How do we support the cables or route future cables to these when enclosed?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Refer to plans dated 30 July 2012, refer to Civil Drawings.*
26. Plumbing - Regarding the VA bldg 115 water main relocation, I am wondering why we cannot install elbows to re-route the existing water main instead of using live taps. The water main will have to be shut down and drained in order for us to cap the lines as they have shown. We would be able to just as easily install elbows while the main is drained and avoid having to live tap the main.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *The LIVE TAP is specified so that the water main does not have to be shut down. Valves shown are to be Mechanically Restrained and are located such that the Contractor can isolate the portion of main to be abandoned/removed, while maintaining water service at all times. Tap-ins are to be "LIVE TAPS" or "HOT TAPS".*
27. Construction - We do not have Spec Section 05-12-00 Structural Steel Framing.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Section 05 12 00 Structural Steel Framing is included with this RFI.*
28. Construction - We do not have specs on Air and Vapor Barrier.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Air and Vapor spec. to be provided with this RFI.*
29. Construction - Drawing A101 Building 115 Ground Level Floor Plan Door #100.3. What closes insulation/air space at jamb?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Brick returns are to be provide at all jamb conditions.*
30. Construction - Detail 14/S501-A bearing plate is labeled and shown below the beam and angle. This plate appears to be much wider than 6". Verify if this plate is incorrectly shown or if it is to be a continuous plate, please provide size of plate.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Bearing Plate should be 6" x 12" x 3/8" w/ 1/2" DIA. X 6" Long Stud anchors. Bearing plate to be provided and centered at each pier locations. Steel lintel (L-1) to be provided continuous.*
31. Construction - What is the spacing required for the 1" Blind Bolts/Angle brackets?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Provide 1 1/2" offset from top and bottom at each steel angle location.*
32. Drawing S101, E100: Cable Pull detail referenced, non shown.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Reference detail in WE Energies Manual as referenced.*
33. Drawing M101: 10" x 10" duct openings to cable vault. What are hole framing details?  
**E Response:** *See Details 11/S501, 9/S501 and 4/M101*
34. Drawing A200, M101: AC-1 and AC-2 wall openings. What are lintel details?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Provide 8" Bond beam per the Masonry Specifications with Steel Lintel (L-1).*
35. Drawing A101: Is attic access needed? None shown.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *VA to confirm. At time of Design it was not requested.*
36. Alternate Bid: Keystone retaining wall – what is footing detail and is some type of tieback required?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *See detail J on C108, yes tie back is required.*
37. Sheet C108 Removable Post Barricade detail. Clarify footing diameter with pipe diameter. 9" for 5" pipe and 12" for 3" pipe?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *VA Standard Detail, follow detail. Taller Bollard = More Concrete.*

38. Drawing S000 Concrete & Reinforcing, Line 1 Construction Joints and Pour Joints: What is preferred joint spacing and detail? Is water stop required?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *As indicated on the note, contractor to locate and detail per industry standards. Structural review layout as part of shop drawing submittal.*
39. Drawing S502 Detail 5, Spec Section 31 66 15 Page 8 Article 3.4 Termination Criteria, Paragraph A. Line 2: Cannot find minimum depth on drawings.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Pile depth to be provided as required to meet the designed bearing capacities as noted on the pile cap details.*
40. Construction - Drawing C108 Detail B/C102  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Detail B/C102 does not exist.*
41. Construction - Clarify aluminum railing-no specification found.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *See Typical Ornamental Aluminum Fence Detail B/C108. Cross members are 1" dia. Typical and spaced 6" from center. Bottom cross member is 1" dia. and 6" from ground.*
42. Construction - Clarify anchor detail on top of concrete retaining wall and on Alternate Bid  
**AE\_VA Response:** *No Alternate Bid for Keystone Retaining Wall.*
43. Construction - Keystone retaining wall.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *No Keystone retaining wall as an Alternate Bid item.*
44. In reviewing the specifications for the aluminum windows section 084113, item 2.2 Storefront Framing and section 090600 page 9, there is a discrepancy in the storefront framing specified. Item 2.2, lines B, C and D in section 084113 calls for 2" x 4½" front glazed with gaskets all 4 sides. This would be 451TVG. Section 090660 page 9 calls for 451TUT SSG. The 451TUT is only center glazed and is not available in SSG. Please advise which framing system I should figure. The elevations on sheet A200 do not show silicone glazed vertical mullions. Details 4 and 5 on A500 show a front glazed curtain wall system.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *451T VG Front Glazed System to be provided.*
45. The solicitation mentions the existing 115 building area after demolition is to be a "usable space capable to support parked vehicles." With this in mind, why is a 6" curb (C-103) being installed? Should a curb cut and vehicle approach be installed?  
**AE\_VA Response:** *Curb is part of Design, NO - a curb cut and vehicle approach are not part of the Contract Documents. The purpose is to leave the slab in a useable condition after building removal.*
46. Design Drawings require Contractor to comply with all conditions obtained for this project. Drawings state the Permits are available from the Owner upon request. Bon Secour is requesting a copy of all Permits for the projects, and any conditions/requirements Bon Secour needs to comply with.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *General notes state that; "awarded contractor must comply with the conditions of permits obtained in conjunction with this work, copies of permits, if any, are available in project manual or are available from the owner upon request". VA to supply permits if any.*
47. C102 requires shoring to the north side of oxygen tanks. There are no details for shoring on the Design Drawings. If Bon Secour is responsible for the design of the temporary shoring, Bon Secour is requesting drawings of the oxygen tank slabs, footers, and foundations. Also requesting details on all equipment on oxygen pads.  
**AE\_VA Response:** *AE\_VA Team does not have drawings of the oxygen tank slabs, footers, or foundations. If this is available information, VA should provide to Bidders. It is anticipated by the AE\_VA Team that contractors will install sheet pile for temporary shoring.*

48. C103 requires a retaining wall to the north of the existing Building 115 slab. There are no details for this retaining wall on the Design Drawings. Bon Secour is requesting the details for the required retaining wall.

**AE\_VA Response:** *See C108 and C109 for details pertaining to the retaining wall to the north of the existing slab. For 6" retaining wall south of existing slab, see detail for 30" Concrete Pedestal, 6" retaining wall will follow this detail, however height will be 15".*

49. Alternate price for a Keystone retaining wall would require a geo-fabric every 3'-4' vertical with approximately 6' of horizontal material backfilled over it. The new Building 115 is 3' away from the North wall, so there isn't any way to sufficiently cover the fabric. What should be done.

**AE\_VA Response:** *This is not an alternate in the Final Bid Documents. See Bid Documents Dated 30 July, 2012.*

50. Color for stamped concrete is not readily available. Please provide and alternate color or details how to resolve.

**AE\_VA Response:** *Color is to be Dusky Clay OR Comparable as acceptable to the VA Resident Engineer.*

51. On Detail M/C104 there shows there to be vinyl flooring on the SOG, but on 1/A500 there shows no vinyl flooring.

**AE\_VA Response:** *There is not a Detail M/C104. M/C108 shows the gravity drain section. Nowhere on the Detail is vinyl flooring depicted or called out.*

52. We have a subcontractor, Pieper Electric that asked if it would be possible to take another look inside the Existing Electrical Substation (currently out for bid). Would that be possible?

**AE\_VA Response:** *VA to determine and coordinate.*

53. In the vaults beneath the switchgear, we are assuming that the cables can be fireproofed together as a circuit rather than wrapping individual phases of cable. Please confirm if this is permissible.

**AE\_VA Response:** *Correct, the cables shall be fire taped together as a circuit.*