

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Renovate Microbiology, Building 1 at the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center, Iron Mountain, MI
PROJECT NUMBER: 585-17-113
SOLICITATION NUMBER: 36C25218B1089

Pre-Bid RFI / Questions and Answers

Q. What work can be done at night and what work can be performed during the day?

A. All material handling for new construction and demolition shall be done after hours. Also, any work that generates loud noise shall be done after hours to minimize any negative impact to the Lab personnel.

Q. Does the lightning protection system need to be re-certified after demolition?

A. Yes, Per NFPA 780 the system shall be re-inspected if modified. A UL representative shall inspect and certify the modified system.

CLARIFICATION: The Contractor is not required to Certify the new Biological Safety Cabinet. The VA will be responsible for this.

Q. The solicitation calls for no bid bond, is that correct?

A. Correct, a bid guarantee is not required for this solicitation. (As part of the Contractors Bid Package.)

Q. Then no performance or payment bonds are required?

A. Payment protections ARE required, pursuant to 40 U.S.C. 3132 for construction projects greater than \$30,000 but not greater than \$150,000, the bidder to whom a contract is awarded will be required to furnish a Payment Protection per 52.228-13 Alternate Payment Protections (see 28.102-1(b)(1)).

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52.228-13 Alternative Payment Protections.

As prescribed in [28.102-3\(b\)](#), insert the following clause:

(a) The Contractor shall submit one of the following payment protections:

- (i) A payment bond.
- (ii) An irrevocable letter of credit (ILC).
- (iii) A tripartite escrow agreement
- (iv) Certificates of deposit.

(b) The amount of the payment protection shall be 100 percent of the contract price.

(c) The submission of the payment protection is required within 10 days of contract award.

(d) The payment protection shall provide protection for the full contract performance period plus a one-year period.

(e) Except for escrow agreements and payment bonds, which provide their own protection procedures, the Contracting Officer is authorized to access funds under the payment protection when it has been alleged in writing by a supplier of labor or material that a nonpayment has occurred, and to withhold such funds pending resolution by administrative or judicial proceedings or mutual agreement of the parties.

(f) When a tripartite escrow agreement is used, the Contractor shall utilize only suppliers of labor and material that signed the escrow agreement.