

36C24219B0031-Replace Windows B36-Canandaigua VAMC-Amendment 00003

A few questions/concerns regarding the phasing requirements contained in the solicitation SOW:

1. The SOW states that some of the previous replacement projects have found ACM materials. Do you know if the caulking was tested for PCBs? Obviously, this would cause an issue if not know ahead of time for bidders (and likely be costlier to the VA as a change order down the road).
1. (A) The caulking was not tested for PCBs. As stated in the SOW the windows and components were determined to be containing ACM and lead based paint. All windows should be treated as hazardous materials. This includes removal and disposal. The bid documents allow the contractor to test any portion of the window if they choose in order to not treat that material as hazardous materials.
2. The SOW also calls for any window removed to be replaced in the same day. Unfortunately, given the nature of abatement this will not be achievable. To set up containment for abatement, obtain clearance to start work, and perform the abatement, and then get clearance samples will take a minimum of 1 day. With 24-hr sampling turnaround, best case would have the new window installed 3 days after the existing is removed. This sort of discrepancy would also cost the VA unnecessarily if addressed via change order down the road. I imagine the concern is security, thus I would recommend requiring plywood covers over window openings until replacement occurs; not to mention the asbestos sign usually keeps most people at bay.
2. (A) Per bid documents, the abatement procedures to be followed are NYS code rule 56-11.6 Exterior Project Removal of Non-friable ACM Roofing, Siding, Caulking, Glazing Compound, Transite, Tars, Sealers, Coatings, and other NOB ACMs. Additional Abatement specifications were provided in the event Contractor rendered ACM friable in the demolition process. Per this requirement, Air sampling is not required.
3. Andersen E window is a residential grade product; and as such appears to be a misnomer.
3. (A) The Anderson E series was listed as the "Cottage Style" window. Per Manufacturer this style can be manufactured in Aluminum Clad with multiple glazing options. The intent is to maintain the historical appearance of windows.
4. Also, would these windows be subject to the Blast-Resistance requirements that have been required in other areas of the campus?
4. (A) These windows do not require blast resistant glass.