



Department of Energy

Environmental Management
Consolidated Business Center
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Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
(513) 246-0500

JUN 20 2011

EMCBC-00678-11

Dear Prospective Offerors:

FINAL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) No. DE-SOL-0002555 FOR MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION (M&O) OF THE WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT (WIPP)

This letter hereby serves as the official notice to prospective Offerors that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is releasing Final RFP No. DE-SOL-0002555 for the WIPP M&O procurement through its Environmental Management Consolidated Business Center (EMCBC). The RFP can be found on the EMCBC acquisition website at <https://www.emcbc.doe.gov/wippmo>.

Any questions pertaining to the Final RFP should be submitted in writing via the e-mail address wippmo@emcbc.doe.gov by July 19th, 2011. DOE will post any amendments issued to the Final RFP, responses to questions (if required), and other official communications (e.g., pre-proposal conference and site tour information) from the Contracting Officer to the EMCBC acquisition website. Prospective Offerors are encouraged to conduct a thorough review of the Final RFP, and to submit any questions pertaining to the Final RFP as early as possible, but no later than the date mentioned above, in order to allow DOE adequate opportunity for preparation of responses to all questions and comments submitted.

ALL FINAL PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DOE AS SPECIFIED IN SECTIONS L.17 AND L.32 OF THE FINAL RFP.

Background

On April 1, 2011, DOE issued RFP No. DE-SOL-0002555 in draft form to facilitate interested parties' understanding of DOE's requirements, and to provide such parties an opportunity to submit comments and provide feedback pertaining to the Draft RFP. Comments were due by COB April 18th. DOE carefully considered all comments received on the Draft RFP, and made changes it believed were necessary to address those comments and improve the general quality of the document.

This cover letter provides summary level information on notable changes made to the Draft RFP. However, the Final RFP posted to the EMCBC acquisition website specifies all requirements for the WIPP M&O procurement. Any information contained in this cover letter shall **not** be construed as being part of the Final RFP.

PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS SHALL PREPARE THEIR PROPOSALS BASED SOLELY ON THE REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN THE FINAL RFP AND IN ANY ACCOMPANYING AMENDMENTS, IF ISSUED

Notable Changes from the Draft RFP

In addition to general editing and other minor changes throughout the RFP, highlighted below are notable changes from the Draft RFP.

Section B: Anticipated Funding and Annual Fee Base revised to reflect current budget.

Section H: Key Personnel penalties increased.

Section H: Contractor Community Commitment clause revised and clarified.

Section L: 1) General Proposal Instructions related to format and page count revised.

2) Major Subcontract Threshold revised to \$25 million.

Sections L and M:

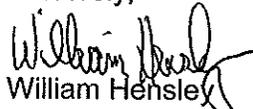
- 1) Proposal Preparation Instructions for Volume II: Management Approach is revised to delete the submittal of a Transition Plan with the proposal, and the Transition Plan is replaced with the Approach to Transition Activities.
- 2) Key Personnel Costs added to Volume III Cost Proposal Instruction.
- 3) Evaluation Criteria Order of Importance is revised.

For information only and to facilitate the easy navigation of the changes, PDF files are posted with the final RFP showing the tracked changes from the draft RFP. In the event of any inconsistency between the RFP with tracked changes (PDF copy) and the final RFP document, the final RFP document will control.

Notice: In order to further DOE's policy of maximizing electronic commerce, electronic media will be the primary method of communication regarding this procurement. The Final RFP, any amendments issued, responses to questions received from prospective Offerors, and other official communications from DOE will be posted on the EMCBC acquisition website, www.emcbc.doe.gov/wippmo. Prospective Offerors will be responsible for reviewing this website regularly for information, notices, and updates regarding the Final RFP.

DOE intends to answer any questions pertaining to the Final RFP as thoroughly and efficiently as possible, and we look forward to receiving your proposals in response to the Final RFP.

Sincerely,


William Hensley
Contracting Officer

Enclosure: RFP DE-SOL-0002555