

Questions and Answers on WIPP M&O RFP (Q.51 – Q.54):

Q51. L.34(c): The RFP requires that the bidders provide their management and technical approach for the National TRU Waste Program in the short term (2 years), contract period (5 years) and the long term through the lifecycle of the project. However, the 2010 TRU waste inventory that has been supplied is only by waste container and provides no detail as to when the waste will be available for characterization and transport. The National TRU Waste Management Plan DOE/NTP-96-1204, dated July 2002, is the only document available that provides a strategic plan for waste disposition. This plan, which is nearly 10 years old, was dramatically impacted by the ARRA-accelerated TRU waste disposition project, to an extent not known to any bidders except the incumbent.

This presents a situation where none of the bidders, with the exception of the incumbent, have the necessary information to project an operations plan through the year 2035, as none of the bidders has the current baseline and strategic plan.

If a more recent National TRU Waste Management Plan is available, we request that the government provide that information to all bidding entities. If no such plan or baseline is available, we request that the government provide an approach for distributing the 2010 waste inventory over the 22-year period (2012 to 2035) requested, including any adjustments to the inventory that resulted from the ARRA program.

A51. See Responses to Q.12 and Q.19.

Q52. There have been news reports that Carlsbad, NM community organizations plan to issue a request for proposals to potential WIPP M&O Offerors for economic development commitments to the community. What is DOE's position on this reported community request for proposals?

A52. DOE is aware of reports that the Carlsbad Department of Development (CDOD) may issue a request for proposals asking that potential Offerors under DOE RFP No. DE-SOL-0002555 also submit a separate proposal to CDOD discussing the potential Offeror's plans to provide economic development support to the community. News reports state that the Offeror deemed by the CDOD to provide the best economic incentives would receive "the support you desire by all of the state entities for award of the M&O contract for WIPP."

There is no relationship between the DOE RFP No. DE-SOL-0002555 and the reported CDOD request for proposals. Offerors are reminded that proposals submitted in response to the DOE solicitation will be evaluated and an award made solely in accordance with the terms and conditions of the DOE solicitation. DOE will not consider an endorsement or pledge of support by CDOD or any other entity relating to an offer of a cash commitment and/or other economic development efforts during the DOE

acquisition process. Any such endorsement or promises of support should not be submitted to DOE.

Q53. C.4.3.3: Under 4.3 Research and Development Programs, would you please provide a definition and clarification on Applied Development – specifically, what type of issues have been, or are currently being addressed?

A53. Applied Development is a recent component of the WIPP M&O PWS. Activities termed as “applied development” have not been performed to date. However, it is anticipated that “applied development” activities will need to be undertaken as new waste streams and or packaging configurations are proposed for inclusion in the WIPP. This will include research that would be required to address performance assessment needs.

Q54. Clause H.47, Contractor Community Commitment, is unclear regarding costs that are allowable. Please clarify.

A54. Clause H.47 has been revised to clarify those community commitment activities’ costs, which are unallowable and non-reimbursable unless otherwise allowable pursuant to the FAR and/or the DEAR or other provisions of the contract