



CITY OF HOUSTON

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January 14, 2010

SUBJECT: Letter of Clarification No. 4 to Invitation to Bid No.: S11-L23436 for Dry Pit Pump Maintenance, Repair and Replacement Services for the Public Works & Engineering Department

TO: All Prospective Respondents

This Letter of Clarification is issued for the following reasons:

• **To answer the questions submitted by Prospected bidders:**

1. **Question:** Group V - Year 1. Cost to disassemble, clean, inspect, repair, reassemble, align, and test run at City Facility. Who supplies parts for the repair? The manner in which the pumps are categorized by a relatively large scale of horsepower ratings, and knowing there are various manufacturers in each group makes it very difficult to arrive at a generic repair parts cost, even if it is only seals and bearings due to the variance in the manufacturer and size of the pumps within each group.

Answer: The Contractor will be required to supply parts that meet or exceed the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) specifications and compensation will be based on submittal of a unit price list of parts and materials and the markup/discount percentage for OEM Parts and Materials as shown in the contract fee scheduled which shall be the price bid for that line item on the electronic bid form for Group IX Subcontractor's Labor, Parts, and Materials % Markup/Discount (Original Invoice).

2. **Question:** For Group V (repair on site) and Group VI (repair on contractor's facility) - The cost of replacement parts required for repair is difficult based on the various sizes and manufacturers of the pumps. Should this unit price cost include parts pricing or not?

Answer: All parts and materials compensation is based on submittal of a unit price list of parts and materials and the markup/discount percentage for OEM Parts and Materials as shown the contract fee scheduled which shall be the price bid for that line item on the electronic bid form for Group IX "Subcontractor's Labor, Parts, and Materials % Markup/Discount (Original Invoice) and not included in Group V and Group VI."

3. **Question:** Group VIII - for the following items listed as sub-categories are these items to be a unit cost quote or a unit labor cost quote?

- 10) Shaft resurfacing
- 11) Sandblasting
- 12) Painting
- 13) NDE inspection
- 14) Impellers

Answer: The subject "Various Line Items" should be priced based on an hourly rate inclusive of all costs associated with performing the services. If the "Various Line Items" are subcontracted out, the services apply to Additional Services/Work by Subcontractor including markup/discount in accordance with submittal or original invoice. Impellers were deleted off of the electronic bid form (see Clarification 1).

Partnering to better serve Houston

Council Members: Brenda Stardig Jarvis Johnson Anne Clutterbuck Wanda Adams Mike Sullivan Al Hoang Oliver Pennington Edward Gonzales James Rodriguez Stephen C. Costello Sue Lovell Melissa Noriega C.O. "Brad" Bradford Jolanda "Jo" Jones
Controller: Ronald C. Green

4. **Question:** Will the City require the contractor to carry pollution or environmental insurance?

Answer: No.

5. **Question:** Group II, Cost to Transport Various Size Dry Pit Pumps; Item numbers 4 and 5 on the bid form, what are the gross weights for these pumps?

Answer: The gross weights of the pumps are approximately 40,000 to 45,000 pounds. Wastewater Operations does not maintain a record of pumps gross weights of these pumps; therefore it is incumbent on the bidder to verify the exact weight with the manufacturers.

6. **Question:** Who will be responsible for electrical work as in connecting and disconnect of all motors, etc.?

Answer: The City of Houston Wastewater Operation personnel will be responsible for Lock-Out-Tag-Out, disconnecting, and reconnecting all motors

7. **Question:** Will the City employee's start up and line out equipment on the test runs for the contractor mechanics?

Answer: During the start up, the Contractor shall be responsible for performing realignment and vibration readings during the test run.

8. **Question:** During the 24 hour test run at the City's facility, does the City expect 24 hour coverage by the contractor and what are the parameters for our support on this test run?

Answer: During the 24 hour test run, the contractor shall be responsible for providing the equipment and taking the OEM or industry acceptable required realignment and vibration readings for start up and reaffirming those readings after 24 hours. The City of Houston will not require the contractor to provide 24 hour coverage.

9. **Question:** In the bid, Group V and Group VI consist of (Disassembly, Clean, Inspect, Repair, Reassemble, Align and perform test run at either the city facility or contractor facility). We do not have the capabilities to test run at our facility but do have capabilities to perform all other work at our facilities. Therefore, do I just no bid the Group VI or will this count us out of the other work at our facility as well?

Answer: The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to accept any bid or combination of bids deemed advantageous to it.

10. **Question:** What is the detailed description of "Inspect"? Does it include NDT or Balance check?

Answer: Inspect means to utilize the contractor's professional technical knowledge, required industry specifications and equipment to analyze, diagnose, document (written and photographic), and prepare a cost proposal estimate to repair or replace a dry pit pump unit.

11. **Question:** Under Group VIII, it is asking for "Standard Labor Rate for work performed" and is measured in hours. Does this reflect an hourly rate for one man or is it asking for an hourly rate for the service performed, to include however many men it takes, i.e. Crew? To clarify, if we were to come on site and perform a job that took two hours and we had two men on the crew and our rate was \$50.00, would we bill for 2 hours or 4 hours?

Answer: All labor rates (standard, overtime, and emergency) are an hourly rate for the work or service performed, i.e., 2 men x 2 hours x \$50/per hour.

When issued, Letter(s) of Clarification shall automatically become a part of the solicitation documents and shall supersede any previous specification(s) and/or provision(s) in conflict with the Letter(s) of Clarification. It is the responsibility of the respondent to ensure that it has obtained all such letter(s). By submitting a bid on this project, respondents shall be deemed to have received all Letter(s) of Clarification and to have incorporated them into this bid.

If you have any questions or if further clarification is needed regarding this solicitation, please contact me.

Sincerely,



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City of Houston, Strategic Purchasing Division
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END OF LETTER OF CLARIFICATION NO. 4