



# CITY OF HOUSTON

Department of Public Works and Engineering

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Date: December 13, 2012

Subject: Letter of Clarification No. 2  
Fire Hydrants and Parts Certification  
For Public Works and Engineering Department

Reference: Request for Qualification (RFQ) No. Q24443

Due Date: December 14, 2012

To All Prospective Suppliers:

This Letter of Clarification is issued to answer the following questions:

1. How many hydrants have been purchased by the City of Houston during the last fiscal year?

Answer: 84 Fire Hydrants have been purchased in the last fiscal year. (Please note that this solicitation is for Certification only and not for supplying Fire Hydrants, A supply contract for fire hydrants will be published at a later date.)

2. Did the chosen distributor meet the 24 hour response to order placement? If not what was their performance record?

Answer: This question is not relevant to the Fire Hydrant Certification.

3. What are the criteria used to determine if the manufacturer hydrants are in compliance with the details of the Certificate of Responsibility?

Answer: The criteria used are the specifications that are defined and published in the bid document.

4. On Page 6. Part D, Par. 12 Hydrant Painting; Please define how we provide an "approved equal".

Answer: Vendors can submit the appropriate documents in reference to an "approved equal" to the Office of City Engineer for their review and approval. For the current Certificate they should submit as specified.

5. On Page 7. Part D, Par. 12 Hydrant Painting b. Exterior below traffic flange: ii) Does the shoe need to be painted blue as well?

Answer: Yes

6. Kennedy Valve would desire to have the performance testing and certificate of performance remain valid for at least 10 years, as long as there are no changes have been made during this time period that would have any effect on the performance testing of the hydrants [i.e. BOM or changes in design].

Answer: The performance testing will remain at five years as published

7. Kennedy Valve would desire that the performance testing requirements be published at least 6 months in advance.

Answer: We will consider publishing the performance testing requirements 6 months in advance.

8. Kennedy Valve would request that the water temperature of 70° +/- 5° F, be adjusted (lowered) to a more practical range.

Answer: We would consider if you have proposed the range of water temperature which is reasonable for the Houston Area.

9. Kennedy Valve would desire to change from the current K81A to the K81D hydrant. The K81D hydrant meet all the requirements of AWWA, UL and FM (changes in the UL246 requirements now includes the 4" pumper nozzles). These are exactly the same hydrant except for the casting lettering ('K81A' vs. 'K81D') and there are no interchangeability issues.

Answer: Kennedy Valve can submit the appropriate documents to change from the current K81A to the K81D to the office of City Engineer for their review and approval.

10. In an effort to continually improve our processes and strive to become more environmentally friendly, Kennedy would desire/encourage the City of Houston to consider allowing Kennedy Valve to offer a slightly different coating combination that we believe will meet or exceed the current Houston painting specifications. Since early 2010, almost all hydrants produced by Kennedy Valve have been coated via a heat fused Polyester powder coating method on the above ground-line parts. This TGIC material has been very well received by other municipalities and provides a durable, long lasting and UV resistant coating which is environmentally friendly (zero VOC's). Of course Kennedy would meet the DFT's and color scheme for all other components per Houston specification.

Answer: Kennedy Valve can submit the appropriate documents in reference to the different coating combination to the office of City Engineer for their review and approval.

11. Under 2.0 General:, 2.4 Please change to read:

Performance testing date should be current as of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2008 to January 1<sup>st</sup> 2013.

This letter of Clarification shall be considered part of the solicitation referenced above.

Furthermore, it is the responsibility of each bidder to obtain any previous Letter(s) of Clarification associated with this solicitation.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Delbert Nave".

Delbert Nave  
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MW:DLN: dln

C: file