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Bid Fax: (819) 997-9776

SOLICITATION AMENDMENT
MODIFICATION DE L'INVITATION

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions of the Solicitation remain the same.

Ce document est par la présente révisé; sauf indication contraire, les modalités de l'invitation demeurent les mêmes.

Comments - Commentaires

Vendor/Firm Name and Address
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Science Procurement Directorate/Direction de l'acquisition de travaux scientifiques
11C1, Phase III
Place du Portage
11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier
Gatineau, Québec K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet CHEMISTRY TESTING	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation 39903-130313/A	**Amendment No. - N° modif.** 005
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client 39903-130313	**Date** 2013-03-14
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-$$SS-013-25446	
File No. - N° de dossier 013ss.39903-130313	**CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME**
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin **at - à 02:00 PM** **on - le 2013-03-22**	**Time Zone** **Fuseau horaire** Eastern Standard Time EST
F.O.B. - F.A.B. **Plant-Usine:** ☐ **Destination:** ☑ **Other-Autre:** ☐	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Dagenais, Gaëtane	**Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur** 013ss
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (819) 956-1365 ( )	**FAX No. - N° de FAX** (819) 997-2229
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: **Destination - des biens, services et construction:**	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

Delivery Required - Livraison exigée	**Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée**
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Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm (type or print) **Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/ de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)** **Signature** **Date**	

This Solicitation Amendment is raised in response to enquiries received relative to the bid solicitation.

Q1. Reference: Appendix 1 (A) Allergen Testing Kit Specifications
EGG: Samples with milk content tested positive by Neogen Veratox for Egg Allergens needs confirmation by another testing kit.

Please clarify that CFIA considers milk content to be a possible source of interference for the Neogen Veratox for Egg Allergens test kit? A significant number of samples may contain milk content; can you confirm that each one testing positive with this kit requires further confirmation by another testing kit? Is it permissible to forgo the use of the Neogen Veratox Egg Allergens kit and use a substitute manufacturer's kit?

A1. Yes. It has been demonstrated that Neogen Veratox for Egg Allergen produces a false positive in products containing whey related to a specific starter culture; thus confirmation from another testing kit is required where a positive result is found in such products. Negative results do not require a confirmation test. It is possible to forgo the use of Neogen Veratox Egg Allergens kit and use an alternative kit.

Q2. Reference: M3 For allergen testing the Bidder must demonstrate its ability to meet the Limit of Detection (LOD) published by the supplier of the testing kit, as described in Table 5; and M3.1.

Many allergen test kit inserts do not refer to an LOD, however they include a Limit of Quantitation (LOQ). Is it acceptable to provide the LOD or the LOQ according to what the manufacturer has provided with the test kit?

A2. The Bidder must demonstrate the ability to meet the technical specifications as the kit supplier described. LOD may be provided by the supplier in separate publication rather than package inserts. Please consult with technical support group from the kit supplier for such information. In cases where the LOD values are not available through the supplier, please indicate.

Q3. Reference: Annex A Statement of Work, item 6.5 ..."hold any remaining sample material under frozen conditions to prevent spoilage, for an additional ninety (90) calendar days."

Containers made of glass, and some plastics may not be able to maintain integrity under frozen conditions for 90 days and other products are considered shelf stable. Please confirm that such products would be held at the appropriate storage temperature/condition indicated for "after opening" or as commonly known to prevent any loss of sample and container integrity.

A3. The remaining material must be transferred to an appropriate container wherever the original container is not suitable for frozen conditions. Unopened portion can be kept otherwise if it is shelf stable.

Q4. What is the frequency of sample pick-up per city on a monthly basis?

A4. There is no requirement on the frequency of sample pick-up. The contractor and / or its sample collection subcontractor should arrange the pick-up schedule in accordance with prescribed reporting date. Please refer to 6.4, 7.1, 7.5, 11.3 and Appendix II to Anne A of Statement of Work, as well as Amendment 004 for details.

Q5:
Re RFP: Note 2 to Table 5 Technical Evaluation Table (Method Parameters) which reads "To demonstrate LOD/LOQ criteria can be achieved by submitted method, the Bidder must provide a chromatogram (or readings in the case of ELISA) fortified at the LOD and LOQ in the specified matrix as well as a representative blank matrix."

Presumably the intent is to demonstrate on the basis of real chromatographic images that there is reasonable instrument response at the contract required LOD (and LOQ).

Firstly, the requirement is not clear as to whether the LOD/LOQ demonstration relates to the lab determined/defined values or the contract required values - presumably the contract required values. Secondly, a spiking of all targets exactly at either or both the LOD and LOQ can be difficult especially for multi-component targets.

Would you provide confirmation that the section in bold above should read "… fortified at or below the contract required LOD and LOQ…"?

A5. The RFP defines the maximum values of LOD and LOQ for every targeted analyte of each method. Thus, the chromatographic images required in Note 2 to Table 5, are the images of each analyte produced at fortified LOD and LOQ level, which must be "at or below" those maximum values. Refer to Table 4 Reference Methods and Criteria in Annex A, Statement of Work for LOD and LOQ criteria for all targeted analytes.

Q6. Appendix 1(a) of the RFP indicates that the sesame allergen kit should meet 0.5ppm or less LOQ. The allergen kits available in the market only go down to 1ppm LOQ. Please advise how to proceed.

A6. There are Sesame allergen kit(s) with 0.5PPM LOQ commercially available.

Q7. In Part 5 of the RFP, it states that the bidder should be in compliance with the Code of Conduct and certifications clause of the standard instructions.
Please advise what is the Code of conduct and where we can find this clause.

A.7 The bid solicitation states that "All instructions, clauses and conditions identified in the bid solicitation by number, date and title are set out in the Standard Acquisition Clauses and Conditions Manual (https://buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/standard-acquisition-clauses-and-conditions-manual) issued by Public Works and Government Services Canada. "

Please refer to the site above for the following documents containing the Code of Conduct and Certifications clauses:

- Standard Instructions 2003, article 01- Code of Conduct and Certifications - Bid
- General Conditions 2035, article 41- Code of Conduct and Certifications- Contract