

QUESTION & ANSWER #3

SOLICITATION K2A51-12-0105

Question 1:

I am hoping you can provide me with a little more clarification regarding the security clearance requirements for the Ecological Gifts Program: Appraisal Review Panel Manager, Solicitation # K2A51-12-0105.

The tender indicates that the bidder must hold a valid Designated Organization Screening (DOS), with approved safeguarding at the level of PROTECTED B issued by the Canadian Industrial Security Directorate (CISD), Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) before contract award. However, it contradicts this as a requirement when it says that Environment Canada will agree to sponsor the successful bidder to obtain the required security clearance through the Canadian Industrial Security Division (CISD), should this bidder not possess the required security clearance...

Shouldn't bidders already be sponsored by the time they submit their proposal? They may not HAVE the security clearance yet, but they should be in the process of getting it...as it is a requirement for the tender, correct?

Answer to Question 1:

In Amendment #1 to Solicitation K2A51-12-0105, Environment Canada deleted the requirement for bidders to hold the necessary security clearance "at the time of response to this request for proposal" and replaced it with a requirement to hold the necessary security clearance "before contract award."

If the successful bidder based on technical criteria (excluding security) and financial criteria does not already possess the necessary security clearance at time of proposal submission, Environment Canada will sponsor this bidder to obtain the clearance.

Environment Canada will not award the contract to the successful bidder until proof of the necessary clearance is obtained.