



Procurement Hub – Ottawa Office,
Station 9W084, 9th Floor,
200 Kent Street,
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0E6

December 18, 2013

ADDENDUM NO. 2

Subject: Request for Supply Arrangement No. FP802-130005
**Supply Arrangements for Contaminated Sites Management and Technical
Advisory Services for Environmental Management**

Dear Sir/Madam:

Further to the above-mentioned Request for Proposal, this Addendum (#2) is to advise potential bidders of the question(s) received during this tender call to date. Both the question(s) and the response(s) are indicated in the attached Annex A- and that the closing date for this tender call has been changed as follows:

Delete: January 10, 2014
Insert: January 24, 2014

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.

Tenderers are to acknowledge this Addendum by signing in the space provided below and enclosing a copy of this document with their tender submission.

Yours truly,

(Original signed by)

Beverly Shawana
Senior Contracting Officer,
Financial & Materials Management Operations

RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGED

Name of Company

Signature _____

Canada



Annex A-1

Q1. The captioned RSA indicates that firms bidding on this opportunity need to hold a valid Facility Security Clearance with a Document Safeguarding Capability at the Secret Level, and that each resource (i.e. employee) must also have a Secret security clearance level.

Must the staff to be listed in the response hold the Secret security clearance at the time of the proposal submission? Or, is it acceptable to indicate that application has been made to obtain the Secret security clearance. All of our staff holds Reliability clearance, and a few hold Secret. The process for obtaining Secret security clearance would likely extend beyond the submission deadline (especially with the Christmas period intervening), and I was wondering if DFO would consider allowing us, and other firms, to have started the Secret security clearance application process. Alternatively, would DFO consider relaxing the security clearance requirements from Secret to Reliability status?

Q2. Security. Corporately (our legal entity) we do have the requirements (FSC and DSC) and some employees have Secret level, however it would be basically impossible to obtain Secret Level for everyone who we would propose for such a large national Supply Arrangement by January 3, especially over the holidays. Might be possible for some but basically anyone who has lived outside the country at any time can forget about it (at least that's my limited experience). Also when we reviewed the RFP in French there appears to be a discrepancy in the French version, only a "cote de fiabilité" is required of the personnel (not Level II Secret) which translates (in our estimation) to 'Reliability Status' on Public Work's form. My question would be how stringent are the security requirements and the January 3 date (i.e. in place prior to proposal deadline)? Could we begin to obtain and confirm following award? If not this is a no go for us and frankly from our perspective not even remotely fair from a competitiveness standpoint as it obviously favours incumbents and would be very difficult for many many firms. Also from a quality and technical standpoint it automatically excludes a large percentage of staff.

Q3. Regarding security clearances of individual team members; must they hold Secret clearance at the time of RFSA closing, or the time of award, or prior to performing any work under the SA subsequent to award?

Q4. The RFP states that all assigned resources working on this contract must each hold a valid clearance at the SECRET level granted by the Canadian and International Industrial Security Directorate (CISD) of Public Work and Government Services Canada (PWGSC). Could you please confirm that SECRET level clearance is required?

Q5. With regard to the requirement for "Facility Security Clearance (FSC) level with a Document Safeguarding Capability (DSC) at the Secret Level... effective at the time of bid closing" (p. 1 of the RfSA), this appears to contradict the wording on p. 2 that states: "prior to performance of any obligation under any specific project resulting from the potential RFP's, the SA Supplier and sub-Suppliers and their employees assigned to the performance of such contract will be security cleared by the federal government at the secret level." Please clarify whether the SA Supplier (i.e. the firm) needs to have the FSC with DSC at Secret Level effective at time of bid closing or prior to performance of work under a specific RFP. Please also clarify whether individual employees would



need to have secret level clearance prior to the time of bid closing or prior to performance of work under a specific RFP.

Q6. Would you be able to provide a copy of the SRCL. I have reviewed the security statements in the Nov 25, 2013 document, but would like to see the actual SRCL to ensure we can address all the requirements

Q7. Would the following security requirements be sufficient to satisfy the mandatory requirements, and/or can the requirement for FSC SECRET, and the individual assigned resources have the SECRET status at time of award be removed from mandatory requirements.

- A.** The SA Supplier working under these potential Supply Arrangements must hold a valid Document Safeguarding Capability (DSC) at the reliability level effective at the time of bid closing.
- B.** The SA Supplier's assigned resources working on this contract must EACH be eligible to hold a valid clearance at the secret level granted by the Canadian and International Industrial Security Directorate (CISD) of Public Work and Government Services Canada (PWGSC). Prior to performance of any obligation under any specific project resulting from potential RFP's, the SA Supplier and sub-Suppliers and their employees assigned to the performance of such contract will be security cleared by the federal government at the secret level.

Q8. We are interested in submitting on the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Request for Supply Arrangement No. FP802-130005. Our company and proposed staff currently have a valid PWGSC reliability status and a RCMP reliability status security clearance (issued in 2013). We have also initiated the Secret Level status as required for this solicitation through NRC Security. However, they have indicated it will likely take longer than a month to get cleared, especially due to the holiday break.

Could you please comment if it would be acceptable for this solicitation to state that upon award of the contract, we will complete our requirement for the secret level clearance?

Q9. The Terms of Reference for the above noted supply arrangement notes a requirement for the Company and employees to hold a "Secret" level security clearance for this arrangement. Secret level security is a completely different requirement that is quite onerous and expensive to implement and manage (document and electronic file management in particular). Is this a mandatory requirement that is new to the supply arrangement? Is there consideration to have this level of security decreased to the "reliability" level for this submission?

Answer to Q#1 to Q#9:

In response to all of the above noted questions pertaining to the security requirements for this proposal call, the department has revisited the security requirements. The client group including the regional groups and the department's NCR Security, Safety and Emergency Services have



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada

determined that the security requirement will be amended from the level of Secret to Reliability Status. The decision to amend the security level will create the need for changes/corrections to the original Request for Supply Arrangement document which will be amended to reflect those changes/corrections and posted with Addendum #3.

Note that as a result of these changes, the deadline for submission has been extended to January 24th, 2014 no later than 11AM.