



Question(s) and Answer(s) 5

Q1. This message is written to formally request a three (3) week extension to the submission deadline for the 2013 CSA Exploration Core Science Definition Studies for Space Exploration RFP (CSA File No. 9F052-130442/A).

The rationale for this request is to provide a reasonable and adequate time between the deadlines for the aforementioned Science Definition RFP and the Mars 2020 Instrument Phase 0 RFP. There is currently only a two day gap between these RFP submission dates, due to the fact that the deadline for the Mars 2020 RFP has been extended twice. An extension of the submission deadline for the Science Definition RFP would restore a reasonable time interval between the two solicitations and allow us and other bidders to produce stronger proposals for the CSA's evaluation.

A1. A five-day extension is being granted.

Q2. Section 6.1 on p.34 of the RFP specifies that a milestone-based firm fixed price will be paid for Professional Fees, and that Travel and Living Expenses may be paid on a cost reimbursable basis.

Our bid includes, in addition to professional fees and T&L expenses, costs associated with purchasing equipment and materials with which to construct a breadboard instrument. These will involve making payments to suppliers on delivery, and so a cost reimbursable basis of payment would be more reasonable than a milestone-based payment for these expenses (otherwise we would have to carry the cash-flow for these expenses until the end of some milestone, which could be many months after the expense has to be paid by us). In this way purchasing of equipment and materials is similar in character to the T&L expenses, for which a cost- reimbursable basis of payment has been allowed.

May purchases of equipment and materials also be subject to a cost reimbursable basis of payment, say on a monthly-invoice basis?

If not, could an up-front payment milestone be included to cover the anticipated equipment and materials expenses?

A2. We will accept monthly cost reimbursable payments for equipment and materials, provided we approve the expense beforehand and that the overall fiscal year cashflow limitations are never exceeded.

Q3. The RFP specifies (in section A.6.2, p. 43) that science definition activities can include instrument breadboarding.

Our proposal will include instrument breadboarding activities. The development of the equipment in the breadboard will be partly funded by our company, and partly funded by the CSA contract. Also, our intent is to continue making use of that breadboard equipment for continuing instrument development and testing purposes after the contract is concluded, in the further pursuit of the type of space science applications that will be studied in the project.

We believe that the breadboard instrument equipment will be very useful to us in that regard, but would be essentially useless if delivered to Canada. For that purpose, we intend to retain ownership of the breadboard instrument equipment, and do not intend to make that "deliverable" under the contract.



Date: 2014/01/31

The RFP does not state that such breadboard instrument equipment must be a deliverable under the contract --- the only Deliverable specified is a Science Definition Report. However, the RFP does (in section 2.1 on p.33) call up the "General Conditions - Higher Complexity - Services 2035 (2013-06-27)" from the PW&GSC General Conditions. Clause 2035.19 ("Ownership") states that "Unless provided otherwise in the Contract, the Work or any part of the Work belongs to Canada after delivery and acceptance by or on behalf of Canada." Can you please clarify: May a contract resulting from our proposal specify that the breadboard instrument equipment will belong to the contractor rather than to Canada? Or is the intent of the RFP that any such breadboard equipment must be deliverable under the contract? (Such an intention would be highly detrimental to our bid.)

A3. The Statement of Work states that "the scope of this Statement of Work (SOW) encompasses work to mature a science investigation defined by the priorities above to SRL 2" and the work can involve "development as needed to provide content for the Science Definition Report. Development can include but is not limited to: theory, modelling and simulation, laboratory studies such as sample analysis, instrument breadboarding and analogue field science."

The SRL-2 is defined as: "Science Investigation Defined. This level is concerned with the detailed definition of science objectives for a future mission investigation. It includes development of specific experiments, models and tools that will allow the science requirements for this investigation to be specified with precision. It defines measurement goals and associated preliminary data products and describes how they will contribute to the science objectives. It identifies preliminary mission platform needs, and candidate instrument measurement techniques."

Any theoretical analysis, modelling and simulation, use of laboratory studies and instrument breadboarding activities should only be performed under this contract in order to facilitate the definition/identification of the science objectives and measurement goals, as per SRL-2. The purpose of this work is not the development of a new instrument nor the generation of Intellectual Property thereof. CSA's only interest is for the deliverable of the report. The science goals and objectives may be made public later on for an instrument or life sciences concept study competition.

Work related to the development of a new instrument and therefore generation of Intellectual Property should be done outside the scope of the Science Definition Study. However, reasonable expenses to purchase equipment, gain access to facilities, setup breadboards to make measurements, etc., may be allowed when these are required to define or characterize the science goals and objectives. Such purchases would not be considered deliverables under the scope of the contract and thus the ownership will remain with the Contractor.