

RFSO #1000163121 – Questions and answers

Question #38:

We provide consulting services for projects/assignments on First Nation lands contracted by: First Nation communities directly, Tribal Councils, Ontario First Nation Technical Services Corporation (OFNTSC), First Nation Market Housing Fund (FNMHF), AANDC, AANDC/PWGSC Standing Offers, and as part of public private partnerships. Please confirm that this work is not a conflict of interest to this contract for AANDC.

Answer #38:

If the contractor has/can meet the capacity, experience and knowledge requirements to carry out both projects and respects the terms and conditions of the RFSO as outlined in section 9.1 and 9.2 (and all other conditions of the RFSO) then it is not an issue. It will be up to the Successful bidder to review past and current work as mentioned above and compare with potential Call-up's to identify if there is a conflict of interest.

Question #39:

Will work under the RFSO SOA for a particular call-up result in future disqualification from working on a project that is an outcome of the SOA work whether contracted by AANDC, funded by AANDC, or managed by the band council?

Answer #39:

Disqualification will depend on the potential of conflict of interest. It will be up to the Successful bidder to review past and current work and compare with potential future work to identify if there is a conflict of interest.

Question #40:

If we declare a conflict of interest on a call-up as identified in section 9.2.2.2, would we be permitted to work for a First Nation or other party where there is the potential that AANDC and another successful offerer for this RFSO were also involved in another aspect of the project?

Answer #40:

AANDC will accept your refusal to enter into a call-up due to a conflict of interest and would not prevent you to carry on with work that this is source of such conflict of interest.

Question #41:

Will pre-existing relationships with First Nations communities (projects ongoing, proposed or completed) pose a conflict of interest when AANDC is calling-up a successful offerer for an assignment under this RFSO?

Answer #41:

See response to question 38 above.

Question #42:

If we are tracking an engineering design assignment for a project when AANDC calls up a successful offerer for the assignment pertaining to the design assignment we are tracking, can the offerer defer the RFSO assignment based on a potential conflict of interest?

Answer #42:

AANDC will award call-ups timely to meet its need and will not defer award of call-ups to accommodate offerers needs to avoid conflicts of interests. Offerors can refuse call-up requests if it would create a conflict of interest with other ongoing work.

Question #43:

Reference: Page 18 of 75 - section M1 - 1.1 and 1.2.4

BIDDER CORPORATE PROFILE AND CAPACITY

1.1 The Bidder must provide a company profile and resume demonstrating the Bidder's knowledge and **experience in the provision of Engineering and Technical Advisory Services relevant and similar to DIAND's requirement as defined in the SOW.**

1.2.4 A written description of approximately 1,000 words indicating the Bidder's capabilities as a firm, including any existing Quality Certifications (e.g. ISO 9000), resource availability, and the extent of the Bidder's **experience in the provision of Engineering and Technical Advisory Services similar to those described in the SOW.**

Question: Do these two sections refer to one text or two different texts? If two different texts are required, can you give us more detail on what to include and the differences between the two?

Answer #43:

Yes, these two sections (1.1 and 1.2.4) refer to the same text. 1.2.4 refers to the detail that is to be included in the company profile and resume.

Question #44:

Reference: Page 20 of 75 - section R1 - 1.1.1

Question: Does your definition of school include higher education institutions such as colleges, Cégeps and universities?

Answer #44:

With respect to work related to schools under the pending standing offers, we are referring to schools from Kindergarden to grade twelve. For school related experience of the bidder we would accept experience with higher education institutions such as colleges and universities.

Question #45:

Reference: Page 51 of 75 - section 7.4.1 c)

Question: Would a geologist who does not hold an engineering degree but is a member of Northwest Territories and Nunavut Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists qualify as a core contracted resource under section 7.4.1 c)?

Answer #45:

No. As stated under the requirements in 7.4.1 (c) (ii), the Geotechnical engineer is required to have a professional engineering designation with a valid license to practice as an engineer.

Question #46:

Reference: Page 51 of 75 - section 7.4.1 e)

Question: Can biologists or individuals with environmental credentials qualify as core contracted resources in this category?

Answer #46:

No. The Environmental Engineer is expected to have a professional engineering designation with a valid license. See section 7.4.1 (e) (ii).

Question #47:

Reference: Page 26 of 75 - section 1.2.11

1.2.11 Notwithstanding the above, the Bidder **MUST** provide **price support** for all proposed **non-core contracted resource per diem rates** and all contracted resource **per diem rates** for any intermediate or junior level resources (if proposed) by the Bidder. Acceptable price support is one or more of the following: (...)

c) A "most favoured" price certification statement.

Question: Can you clarify if a specific format of certificate is preferred?

Answer #47:

There is no specific format required. It is at the bidder's discretion as to the format of the price certification statement as long it is, valid and what is generally used by the bidder and has been used in the past.

Question #48:

Reference: Page 21 of 75 - section 1.2; Page 21 of 75 - M2 section; Page 25 of 75 - section 1.2.7

We understand that 6 resources can be proposed for core disciplines (4 core contracted resources, 1 intermediate level contracted resource and 1 junior level contracted resource).

We also understand that 4 resources can be proposed for non-core disciplines (2 non-core contracted resources, 1 intermediate level contracted resource and 1 junior level contracted resource).

Question: In order to improve the proposed resources' coverage nationally, is it possible to increase the number of resources that can be proposed?

Answer #48:

As stated in M2 2.1.1 and R1 1.2 of the evaluation criteria, a maximum of four core contracted resources per discipline will be considered and evaluated for the purposes of awarding the pending standing offers. In terms of non-core contracted resources, as stated in R2 of the evaluation criteria, the bidder may list a maximum of two (2) proposed non-core contracted resources per discipline.

Question #49:

Reference: Page 28 of 75 - Table 4 -A; Page 58 of 75 - Appendix B

Question: Are we to propose a single fixed daily rate for all resources by discipline, province and level?
For example, if we propose two senior civil engineers in Quebec, will they be invoiced at the same daily rate?

Answer #49:

That is correct. See sections 1.2.5, 1.2.6. and 1.2.7 of the Financial Evaluation for clarification. There will be one all-inclusive per diem rate for each Senior Level Core Contracted Resource proposed in each Region. The same goes for non-core Senior Level Contracted Resources and proposed contracted resources at intermediate and junior levels.