



## **ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE (ACAN)**

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has a requirement for the provision of sampling for the BSE surveillance program. The purpose of this Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) is to signal the government's intention to award a contract for these goods and/or services (as applicable) to **Atwood Resource Inc:** R.R.#2, P.O. Box 149, Atwood, Ontario, N0G 1B0. Before awarding a contract, however, the government provides other suppliers with the opportunity to demonstrate that they are capable of satisfying the requirements set out in this Notice, by submitting a statement of capabilities during the fifteen calendar day posting period.

If other potential suppliers submit statements of capabilities during the fifteen calendar day posting period that meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the government will proceed to a full tendering process on either the government's electronic tendering service or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a statement of capabilities meeting the requirements set out in the ACAN, a contract will be awarded to the pre-selected supplier.

### ***Background***

On May 20, 2003, bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), otherwise known as “mad cow disease” was confirmed in an animal born and raised in Canada. On January 9, 2004, as part of a national BSE response strategy, the Government of Canada announced that it would enhance its BSE surveillance testing. As a result, the CFIA wishes to increase its surveillance activities to achieve a minimum of 30,000 samples in subsequent years. The CFIA wishes to encourage, through offers of service contracts, the provision of samples in sufficient quantity to meet the objectives of the National BSE Surveillance Program.

Services required by the CFIA in implementing its surveillance program include those associated with carcass pick up, identification and traceability (record keeping) of selected carcasses, provision and maintenance of a suitable sampling facility and on site handling to present the appropriate samples to the CFIA, as well as those services related to the storage and segregation of carcasses pending determination of BSE status.

The value of the initial contract will be: \$184,000.00 (excluding all applicable taxes). CFIA has the option to extend this contract for two additional six months at a cost of \$184,000.00 and \$208,000 respectively (excluding taxes) for each of the two optional six month periods.



### ***Minimum Essential Requirements***

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

- be located in the southwestern portion of the province of Ontario (west of Hwy. 400 to Windsor);
- have knowledge and experience of the dead stock industry;
- have a proven track record in the dead stock collection industry over the past 3 years;
- have adequate facilities including a designated work area for the collection of BSE samples and sufficient water supply for that purpose;
- be able to provide access to at least 2,300 carcasses over the contract period that provide testable samples that are representative of the adult bovine (at least 30 months of age) mortality over at least 75% of the cattle producing area in southwestern Ontario;
- have an ability to maintain a clean environment for the collection of samples and sufficient water supply for sanitation of the area;
- keep records in accordance with the *Health of Animals Act*;
- must be operated in accordance with federal, provincial and municipal requirements; and

### ***Justification for the Pre-Selected Supplier***

Services required by the CFIA are those associated with maintaining the identification and traceability (record keeping) of selected carcasses for the BSE surveillance program, provision and maintenance of a suitable sampling facility and on site handling to present the appropriate samples to CFIA, and those related to the storage and segregation of selected carcasses pending determination of BSE status. This company has met these specifications during previous contracts.

CFIA will give priority to Collectors covering larger areas with their cattle carcass pick up activities, for which they have volume and capacity to meet CFIA BSE surveillance objectives for the area covered. Atwood covers the southwestern portion of the province of Ontario (west of Hwy. 400 to Windsor) and has access to at least 2,300 carcasses over the course of this contract that will provide eligible samples.

Of significant importance, Atwood has a SRM rendering facility on site, which can segregate, keep and store heads and hides separated from the rest of the sampled carcasses. The remainder of the carcasses can then be rendered, segregated, kept and stored on a weekly basis before and after sampling occurs until test results are available. Up to 100 carcasses a week is a substantial number to provide adequate storage. In



addition, Atwood is the only deadstock dealer in Southwestern Ontario that can meet the required number of samples, as there is no other dealer that can meet the "Over Thirty Months of Age" (OTM) eligible sample surveillance requirements.

Of note, as of July 12, 2007, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) enhanced regulations to more quickly eliminate bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), or mad cow disease, from Canada. This has required implementation of new procedures, that Atwood's has instituted to meet with regulations.

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to meet the specified minimum essential requirements may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the Contracting Authority identified in this Notice on or before the closing date of this Notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

### ***Contracting Period***

The contracting period is expected to begin April 1, 2015 and will be for 6 months ending September 30, 2015 plus 2 consecutive 6 month options at the same rates.

**The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is:  
March 9, 2015, 3:00 p.m. EST.**

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be addressed to:

Lisa Lacasse  
Canadian Food Inspection Agency  
59 Camelot Drive  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0Y9  
Attention: National Procurement & Contracting Service Centre (NPCSC), File: J0645

(Note: If the statement of capabilities is delivered in person, the Shipping and Receiving Unit is accessible to the public via the loading dock located behind Tower 2, 1400 Merivale Road, Ottawa.)

Telephone: 613-773-7383  
Facsimile: 613-773-7615  
Email: Lisa.Lacasse@inspection.gc.ca



### ***Policy Information***

The applicability of the following policy requirements are applicable to this ACAN process are as follows:

  X   Government Contract Regulations, Article 6(b) – “only one person or firm is capable of performing the contract”.

Note this requirement is subject to the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT).

The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements. Statements of capability must be mailed or faxed on or before the closing date of the ACAN. Statements of capabilities received on or before the closing date will be considered solely for the purpose of deciding whether or not to conduct a more extensive tendering process. Information provided will be used by the Crown for technical evaluation purposes only with respect to a decision to proceed to a further competitive process. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency's file number, the contracting officer's name and the closing date of the ACAN must appear on the outside of the envelope in block letters or, in the case of facsimile transmission, on the covering page.

Suppliers that have submitted a statement of capabilities will be notified in writing of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency's decisions on its findings. Should you have any questions concerning this requirement, please contact the contracting officer identified above. Documents may be submitted in either official language of Canada.