

RETURN BIDS TO:
RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:
Bid Receiving
PWGSC
33 City Centre Drive
Suite 480C
Mississauga
Ontario
L5B 2N5
Bid Fax: (905) 615-2095

SOLICITATION AMENDMENT
MODIFICATION DE L'INVITATION

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions of the Solicitation remain the same.

Ce document est par la présente révisé; sauf indication contraire, les modalités de l'invitation demeurent les mêmes.

Comments - Commentaires

Vendor/Firm Name and Address
Raison sociale et adresse du
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution
Public Works and Government Services Canada
Ontario Region
33 City Centre Drive
Suite 480
Mississauga
Ontario
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|---|---------------------------------------|
| Title - Sujet Environmental Consultant | |
| Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation EQ447-152375/A | Amendment No. - N° modif. 004 |
| Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client EQ447-152375 | Date 2015-09-17 |
| GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$TOR-003-6899 | |
| File No. - N° de dossier TOR-5-38062 (003) | CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME |
| Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2015-09-23 | |
| Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT | |
| F.O.B. - F.A.B. Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Escander, Lisa | |
| Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur tor003 | |
| Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (905) 615-2062 () | FAX No. - N° de FAX (905) 615-2060 |
| Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: | |

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Delivery Required - Livraison exigée | Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée |
| Vendor/Firm Name and Address Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur | |
| Telephone No. - N° de téléphone Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur | |
| Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm (type or print) Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/ de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie) | |
| Signature | Date |

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This Solicitation Amendment is raised to answer Bidder's questions and modify table B 2.2 of Annex B.

Question 1:

Section 3.1.1.5 of Annex A – Statement of Work indicates that the contractor is to undertake activities as required to obtain site access consents from the property owners. Can you please explain what this might entail? What if the contractor cannot obtain the necessary access?

Answer 1:

The Section in question also states “if not already in place”. The bidder must also consider the general requirements (Section 4.11 of Appendix 1 of Annex A) which requires that “In the event that any of the confirmed sampling/survey location becomes inaccessible for any reason, the consultant will notify PWGSC as soon as possible of the circumstances, and propose a suitable alternate location that satisfies the intent of the original location and ensures delivery of the required risk assessment in either of Stage 1 and Stage 2. PWGSC/TC will be responsible for arranging access permission from private landowners with support from the Consultant, if and as required, prior to the consultant proceeding with sampling at the proposed alternate location.” The bidder must make allowance for access arrangements in their bid.

Question 2:

Section A5 of the Statement of Work indicates that a formal health and safety document shall be established and maintained at each work site. How many work sites are there?

Answer 2:

The scope of work is outlined in detail in Appendix 1 of Annex A, including sampling locations and survey routes. Bidders are requested to design their Health and Safety plans according to work activities taking place in specific areas of the greater site limits. Where multiple spatially separated work activities are conducted concurrently, it is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that appropriate documentation is maintained at a logical number of locations.

Question 3:

Are the “quantities” identified in Section B1.3 (Sample Analysis) guaranteed? If not, what proportion of said quantities is it reasonable to assume will be “consumed” during Stage 1?

Answer 3:

The quantities identified in the RFP will in part form the basis of the financial bid for evaluation purposes, and are based on a reasonable estimate at this time. Appendix 1 of Annex A clearly identifies that during Stage 1, quantities may vary from that identified in the RFP.

Question 4:

Section 6.1 of the RFP indicates that the landowner information is provided in the detailed work plan. Figures 10 and 11 in the detailed work plan show Stage 1 Investigation Locations. It is difficult to accurately identify said locations/sites. Is it possible to have a complete listing of the locations/work sites?

Answer 4:

Table 6 of Appendix 1 in Annex A provides property information associated with each sampling location, including geo-coordinates. It is suggested that if additional information is required by the Bidder, the Bidder should at a minimum access a publicly available free online resource, such as the City of Hamilton GIS maps or Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority GIS maps.

Question 5:

How many private and public properties must be accessed for Stage 1 work?

Answer 5:

Please refer to Table 6 of Appendix 1 in Annex A.

Question 6:

It is repeated a few times in the RFP that the contractor must adhere to all requirements of access consents and agreements negotiated with the private property owners. Because of the nature of access consents and agreements negotiated with said landowners may contain conditions that affect how the project will be run, please provide "generic" access consents and agreements.

Answer 6:

For sampling locations and survey routes outside of the Hamilton International Airport Property, which are not located on public roadway right of ways or wholly in navigable waterways, property owners have consented to allow work to occur based on the following:

- a. The letter requests the property owner's permission to allow consultants being retained by Transport Canada to enter onto the subject property to collect information or samples as part of a study to assess perfluorinated compounds (PFC) in the Welland River downstream from former fire training areas at the Hamilton International Airport.
- b. The letter provides a figure identifying sample locations and/or survey routes on the subject property and indicates that the work generally includes undertaking vegetation and wildlife surveys, as well as the collection and analysis of surface water, sediment, invertebrate, vegetation, fish and/or small mammal tissue samples.
- c. The consent letters identify the following:
 - i. Observations that will be recorded are anticipated to consist of animal and plant presence details. Additional samples that could be collected along the survey route may consist of animal and plant tissues and potentially sediment and surface water.
 - ii. Consultants completing the study will schedule their visit for a date and time satisfactory to the property owner. Typically, property owners have requested at least 24 hours advance notice regarding when work will take place on their property. Due to the nature of the properties that will be accessed, the consultants must take care to keep gates closed and not damage crops
 - iii. Initial site visits are planned for the fall of 2015 with the possibility of infrequent follow-up visits over the following two years. The assessment work is being conducted at no cost to the property owner.
 - iv. Access on the terrestrial portions of the properties will be by foot.
 - v. Landowners have been made aware that during or following assessment work, they may notice limited disturbance of vegetation near watercourses in the sampling location area due to field personnel walking adjacent to, or in, portions of the watercourse.
 - vi. As part of the work, small mammals may be collected. This collection may require setting and leaving small traps, such as live traps, and periodic checking of the traps by the consultant over a limited period of time, typically in excess of 3 days and possibly as long as 5 days. The live traps used to perform small mammal monitoring are sized to capture small animals and will not harm livestock, pets or humans.
 - vii. Landowners have been made aware that no special precautions are required on their part while small mammal trapping is conducted.
 - viii. The information collected from your property will be provided to you and will also be included in reports to be provided to the Ontario Ministry of Environment and other technical review agencies.

The negotiations are ongoing at this time and subject to change. The above provides general context to the content of the consent letters. The final agreement is still pending, when the agreement is finalized and available, it will be provided to the successful bidder.

Question 7:

With respect to Section 4.9.5 of the detailed work plan – Are the property owners aware that their property may be identified as a location where "manifested wastes" may be generated?

Answer 7:

Manifesting of waste will be required on one property (the Hamilton International Airport). The property owner is familiar with waste manifest requirements and the successful bidder will be required to work with the property owner with regards to waste manifesting. The nature of Stage 1 work at all other locations should not generate wastes requiring manifesting. If the successful bidder completes the work program in a manner which then requires manifesting of waste related to properties exclusive of the HIA, the successful bidder will be required to make all such appropriate arrangements as considered applicable to meet regulatory requirements.

Question 8:

With respect to Section 6.1 of the RFP – The first paragraph of Section 6.1 states “The contractor will prepare and distribute a letter report for each private property owner based on the data collected from their property”. What does PWGSC require with respect to the content of the letter reports? Lab data only? Interpreted lab data with relevant figures? How many property owners are there?

Answer 8:

Letter reports to be supplied to private property owners will be factual only. The reports will contain details on methodology, the data applicable to the private property, a factual text summary of results. Refer also to Section 4.11 of Appendix 1 to Annex A.

As per section 6.1 in Annex A of the RFP, the Contractor should expect, at a minimum, one revision and review by the PA and TC for each report prior to their distribution to the technical committee and others, as appropriate. As per section 6.1 in Annex A of the RFP, within 2 weeks after receiving the comments the Contractor will submit the revised reports back to the PA. The successful bidder will be responsible for issuing the final letter reports to the property owners upon approval from the PA. The estimated timeline for internal review by PA and TC is one (1) to three (3) weeks, pending the volume of review. Every effort will be made to expedite the internal review timeline.

Please refer to section 5.1.1 in Appendix 1 to Annex A of the RFP which states: At the close of reporting for each stage of work, results pertaining to individual properties will be provided to affected property owners who have granted access to allow the work to proceed. Therefore, the timing of this deliverable should match line item “Public Stakeholder and General Public Notifications July/August 2016” The landowners have been identified in Table 6 of Appendix 1 to Annex A.

Question 9:

In relation to question 8, the table provided on page 20 of 43 of the RFP shows a line item titled “Internal Review of Stage 1 Field Investigation results (letter reports)”. The completion date for this milestone is identified as “December 2015”. Are these letter reports those mentioned in the first paragraph of Section 6.1? If so, when can the contractor expect the results of the internal review? What is the expected turnaround time to finalize the reports? Who will issue the final letter reports to the owners?

Answer 9:

The line item titled “Internal Review of Stage 1 Field Investigation results (letter reports)” refers to the fourth paragraph under A6. Scheduling and Reporting in Annex A of the RFP. Please note there is also an equivalent Stage 2 Deliverable. The intent of this reporting is to allow PA and TC a preliminary review of the field results prior to the review of the Draft RA Report Submission.

Question 10:

B1.1 and B2.1 (Proposed Resources): Could you clarify if the resource categories that should be listed in Sections B1.1 and B2.1 refer strictly to the “key positions” listed in Annex “D”, Section D1 (Item M5) or if additional resource categories may be listed within these tables?

Answer 10:

Please see Answer 1 of amendment 002.

Question 11:

B1.2 and B2.2 (Drilling Charges): These sections state: “The Bidder must provide firm all inclusive prices for Drilling Borehole/Installation of Well including expenses associated with crew, drilling boreholes/wells

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(such as elevation survey of wells, utility locates), waste disposal, mobilization, demobilization and equipment rental".

As the term "such as" is ambiguous and leaves room for select omission/inclusion, please define all specific activities associated with Drilling Borehole/Installation cost item. For example, is PWGSC requesting that groundwater sampling, drilling program supervision, and/or reporting also be accounted for in the total drilling charges? Please definitively identify all items that are to be captured under this pay item.

Answer 11:

The Bidder must identify in the RFP Section B1.2 and B2.2 tables all disbursements and expenses to be incurred by the Bidder to undertake drilling for the estimated quantity of wells. Column C costs must be all inclusive. Any fees associated with the work of proposed resources or sample analyses are to be identified separately in RFP Sections B1.1 and B2.1 and Sections B1.3 and 2.3 respectively. Similarly, analytical disbursements must be included in Table 1 and Table 2 of Section B1.3 and Table 1 of Section B2.3. Analytical disbursements must not be included in Section B1.2 costs.

The Bidder must provide firm all inclusive prices for expenses and disbursements for Drilling Borehole/Installation of Well including expenses associated with sub-contractors, drill crew, drilling boreholes and installation of wells (elevation survey of wells, utility locates, and well development (if sub is used to develop wells), waste disposal, mobilization, demobilization and equipment rental. These costs must be included into B1.2 and 2.2.

Stage 1: 24 boreholes and installing 24 wells; Stage 2 15 boreholes and installing 15 wells (see amendment below). The staff time incurred to plan, supervise the drill crew, and other resource time used to undertake drilling, (possibly well development, if not using a sub contractor), groundwater sampling, handling, other project management and administrative tasks should be identified as Labour in B1.1 and B2.1.

All expenses and disbursements for Drilling Borehole/Installation of Wells including expenses and subcontractor disbursements associated with sub-contractors, drill crew, drilling boreholes and installation of wells (elevation survey of wells, utility locates, and well development (if using a sub)), waste disposal, mobilization, demobilization and equipment rental must be included into B1.2 and B2.2.

Question 12:

RE: B1.3 and B2.3 (Sample Analysis): It is stated that "The Bidder must provide firm all inclusive unit prices for sample analysis including expenses associated with sample handling, collection, administrative fees, post-analysis processing fee and disposal".

We presume that this statement applies only to laboratory handling and analysis of submitted samples and does not apply to conducting the sampling programs in the field. Could you clarify if time and costs incurred by field personnel conducting the sampling programs are to be included in the unit prices?

Answer 12:

Sections B1.3 and 2.3 of Annex B are in fact for the all-inclusive cost of the laboratory handling and analysis. The levels of effort for the Bidder's resources, as well as their rates, are to be included in sections B1.1 and B2.1 of Annex B; this would include any field work.

Question 13:

RE: B1.3 and B2.3 (Sample Analysis): 1) Please clarify whether the surface water toxicity tests are to involve single undiluted concentrations, or if they are to involve testing multiple concentrations (dilutions) of collected surface water samples. Laboratory costs are higher for multiple concentration testing compared to costs for single concentration testing.

Answer 13:

Surface water toxicity testing to be conducted in Stage 1 will consist of single concentration undiluted surface water toxicity tests.

Question 14:

Within the RFP, the 21 day fathead minnow test for sediments is not listed; however, this test is listed within Table 1 of the referenced work plan and in Section 4.4 of the work plan.

- a. Please clarify if this test is required.

Answer 14a: The 21 day Fathead minnow sediment exposure test is required and must be included as a separate line item in the cost estimate. Please see the revised unit rate cost tables for clarification. See amendment 002.

- b. If required, please clarify the endpoints that are required for this test (e.g., survival, growth, bioaccumulation, or all three?).

Answer 14b: All three endpoints are required. Please note that if the toxicity test method requires analysis that is also completed as part of other site activities, doubling of requirements is not considered necessary. For example, the analytical method specifies sediment characterization which may also be completed as part of Stage 1 sediment analysis.

- c. If the bioaccumulation endpoint is required, please confirm that the parameters of interest are only PFCs. If other parameters are also of interest with respect to bioaccumulation within fathead minnows, please identify these parameters for analytical costing purposes.

Answer 14c: Only PFCs are of interest in relation to bioaccumulation. Only PFCs are of interest in relation to bioaccumulation. Toxicity test organism tissue submitted for analysis must be analysed by the same laboratory as is performing the field tissue analysis. The toxicity test consists of 10 organisms per replicate. It is recommended that the bidder analyse a composite of tissue comprising the sample rather than analyzing individual organisms.

- d. With respect to 2c, there could be issues related to having sufficient fish tissue mass for reliable PFC quantification. Is there a preferred protocol or approach in this event (e.g., analysis of composite samples)?

Answer 14d: Composite analysis is recommended. As well, the work program includes analysis of tissue obtained from the field. Field obtained fish tissue samples submitted for analysis must represent single organisms.

Question 15:

Within the RFP, unit rate costs for sample disposal are requested in Section B2.3 (Stage 2); however, they are not requested in Section B1.3 (Stage 1) cost estimate tables. Please clarify if unit rate costs are required for sample disposal within Section B1.3?

Answer 15:

Sample disposal costs are to be included in the all-inclusive unit price. Please see the revised unit rate cost tables for clarification

Question 16:

Within the RFP, unit rate costs are requested for OCP (sediment chemistry) within Stage 1 (Section B1.3); however, they are not requested within the cost estimate table for Stage 2 (Section B2.3). Please clarify if cost estimates for OCP should be included within Stage 2 unit rate estimates?

Answer 16:

The Stage 2 cost estimate to be submitted by the bidder does not require inclusion of pesticide analysis.

Question 17:

Could you clarify the items to be included in the cost estimate for "toxicity test sample disbursements" (Section B2.3)?

Answer 17:

Toxicity test sample disbursements are to be included in the all-inclusive unit price. Please see the revised unit rate cost tables for clarification from amendment 002.

Question 18:

Can you clarify what effort should be included in our cost proposal for Stage 2 (Optional Requirement)? That is, are we to provide a cost for all of the work packages that are referred to as, "if required"? For example, section 4.10.1.3 on page 70 of SNCs work plan (appendix 1 to annex a) says, "At Stage 2, as part of a weight of evidence risk assessment if necessary, it is possible that surveys will be completed to assess relative abundance. Abundance surveys, if required, should be completed twice between May to October, with one survey completed during the spring breeding period and a follow-up survey completed in the fall after the breeding season."

Answer 18:

As noted in Section 4.3, the scope of work for Stage 2 species surveys will be defined at the end of Stage 1, dependent on the findings at Stage 1. For cost estimation purposes, the bidder should assume equivalent scopes of work in Stage 1 and 2.

Question 19:

Please confirm the items you wish to be included in the Stage 2 cost estimate. The level of interpretation and uncertainty in forecasting is very high (as the Stage 2 work plan is dependent upon the results of the Stage 1 DQRA) and the implications on the financial bid are huge. It is entirely possible that various bidders will approach this from widely different angles and there needs to be some standardized guidance. PWGSC may wish to reconsider how the financial bid for Stage 2 is included in the overall evaluation based on the recognition of this potential issue.

Answer 19:

The bidder should assume, for cost estimation purposes, that all Stage 2 work will take place in the risk assessment area and at existing sample locations/survey routes identified on Figure 10 and Figure 11 of Appendix 1 to Annex A of the RFP, including borehole/monitoring well locations. For the purpose of cost estimation, the bidder will assume in Stage 2 that access coordination requirements will be equivalent to that identified for Stage 1. To facilitate Stage 2 work and given the uncertain to Stage 2 program, the bidder will be required to include in their cost estimates the fees and disbursements related to obtaining private property owner access approval. The location information is available in Table 6 of Appendix 1 to Annex A of the RFP. The bidder is to assume these property addresses and/or property roll numbers for cost estimation purposes. Please also include in the cost estimate, efforts required to identify the owner name and or contact details of these properties as part of access coordination.

Question 20:

Section 4.7 of the SNC Workplan identifies that a minimum of 20 samples of each tissue class be collected. Please define a tissue class is ie: is aquatic and terrestrial vegetation one class or is aquatic vegetation a separate tissue class from terrestrial vegetation?

Answer 20:

There are three (3) tissue classes considered for terrestrial samples and three (3) tissue classes considered for aquatic samples. These tissue classes are identified in the bullets of Section 4.7 of Appendix 1 to Annex A of the RFP.

Question 21:

In Annex B, Section B1.3, Table 1 of the RFP 66 PFC samples are identified for aquatic tissue analysis. Does tissue count refer to three tissue classes? Please confirm what tissue classes are included in the "66" count: aquatic vegetation, aquatic invertebrates (bivalves or insects), fish.

Answer 21:

Aquatic tissue classes are identified in the bullets of Section 4.7 of Appendix 1 to Annex A of the RFP. The Estimated quantity in column B refers to all tissue classes combined, with the addition of six (6) duplicate analyses to meet a 1:10 field duplicate to sample quality assurance/quality control frequency.

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Question 22:

In Annex B, Section B1.3, Table 1 of the RFP 66 PFC samples are identified for terrestrial tissue analysis. Does tissue count refer to three tissue classes? Please confirm what tissue classes are included in the "66" count: terrestrial vegetation, terrestrial worms/insects, small mammals. .

Answer 22:

Terrestrial tissue classes are identified in the bullets of Section 4.7 of Appendix 1 to Annex A of the RFP. The Estimated quantity in column B refers to all tissue classes combined, with the addition of six (6) duplicate analyses to meet a 1:10 field duplicate to sample quality assurance/quality control frequency.

Question 23:

Where do we include the labour costs for the ground water/surface water/sediment/fish/mammal sampling programs? Please clarify.

Answer 23:

Fees incurred by bidder's staff must be included in the RFP Section B1.1 and B2.1 Tables. Costs to be identified by the bidder in Table 1 and Table 2 of Section B1.3 and Table 1 of Section B2.3 must not include the bidders' fees associated with staff time. It is considered acceptable to provide an extended Proposed Resources table in the financial bid. If a separate table is supplied in the Bidders financial submission, the Table in B1.1 must clearly identify the alternate table in the submission to refer to.

Question 24:

Where do we include the costs for other disbursements not associated with the lab and drilling expenses? For example, mileage and equipment rentals associated with the ground water/surface water/sediment/fish/mammal sampling programs. Please Clarify

Answer 24:

It is stated that "The Bidder must provide firm all inclusive unit prices for sample analysis including expenses associated with sample handling, collection, administrative fees, post-analysis processing fee and disposal". Costs to be identified by the bidder in Table 1 and Table 2 of Section B1.3 and Table 1 of Section B2.3 must include all associated disbursements and not include the bidders' fees associated with staff time.

Question25:

We would like to seek clarification on the number of boreholes/monitoring wells required for Stage 2. Table B2.2 indicates that the stage 2 work program would include 24 boreholes/monitoring wells; however in Table 1 of the Stage 2 soil and ground water laboratory analytical costs, it appears that the number of samples is based on 15 boreholes/monitoring wells. Please clarify the number of boreholes in the Stage 2 borehole cost table.

Answer 25:

Please see the revised estimated quantities under B2.2 Drilling Charges in the amendment below. The quantities identified in the RFP will in part form the basis of the financial bid for evaluation purposes, and are based on a reasonable estimate at this time. The estimated quantities of 33 soil samples and 20 groundwater samples are identified in Table 1 of B2.3. Assume 2 soil samples per borehole plus duplicates for a total of 33 soil samples (15 boreholes x 2, plus 3 duplicates), and 1 groundwater sample per well (15 wells x 1, plus 5 blanks/dup/decon water).

Question 26:

Aviation Liability Insurance: If we state very clearly in our Proposal Submission, that we do not intend to use any aircraft, do we still need to obtain this insurance?

Answer 26:

As there is work to be conducted on the airport grounds the aviation liability insurance is required for that portion of the work.

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Amendment 004

**At Annex B Basis of Payment
At B2.2 Drilling Charges
At Estimated Quantities**

**Delete: 24
Insert: 15**