

Public Works and Government Services Canada

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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

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Science Procurement Directorate/Direction de l'acquisition de travaux scientifiques 11C1, Phase III Place du Portage 11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier Gatineau, Québec K1A 0S5

Title-Sujet Analysis of Wastewater and Sludge/Biosolids for Chemical Substances				
Solicitation No N° de l'invitation K8A45-160866/A		Amendment No N° modif. 002		
Client Reference No N° de référence du client		Date		
K8A45-16-0866		30 March 2016		
GETS Reference No N° de référence de SEAG				
File No. – N° de dossier 075ss.K8A45-160866	CCC No./N° CC – FMS NO. / N° VME			
Solicitation Closes – L'invitation prend fin Time Zone			=	
at - à 2:00 PM		Fuseau horaire Eastern Standard		
on – le 11 April 2016		Time EST		
F.O.B. – F.A.B				
Plant-Usine : Destination: Other-Autre:				
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser to				
April Campbell		l'acheteur 075ss		
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THIS AMENDMENT IS RAISED TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS RECEIVED.

The following questions were received. Answers follow:

- Q2 The desired DL for total Chlorinated Alkanes (Table 6) in waters is lower than that for the corresponding short and medium chain targets. Is this correct?
- A2 The value under "desired detection limit in water (ng/L)" Table 6, last row (Total) should be 1000*. As noted, the total must be determined using a separate chromatographic integration.
- Q3 Please clarify R-3 and R-4 criteria on separation of solids. Many or most of the targets for the program tend to be particulate bound. In such cases, de-watering and extracting the solids (not the water) would or could be appropriate while processing the solids not the waters. In some cases phase separation can be advantageous to facilitate the extracting all phases while ultimately combining the extract. Would the lab not gain full marks for processing the whole sample even if phase separation is included? For those targets that are essentially particulate bound, would processing only the particulates not be acceptable?
- A3 The results of this work are intended, among other goals, to illustrate the levels of compounds entering the environment in wastewater effluents. Although we know qualitatively that some compounds partition to solids, we do not have enough information to accurately estimate "water" contribution versus "solids" contribution, and we do not have the budget to conduct separate analyses for each phase in wastewater samples.
 - If the bidder is prepared to analyze the water and solids phases of a sample separately and provide us with a combined result we would consider that the solids have been "incorporated" into the analysis. If we have to choose a phase, we would choose the water phase for influents and effluents on the (unproven) assumption that the levels in the water phase are higher than in the suspended solids.
- Q4 Please clarify R-7 and R-8 criteria where the laboratory loses points for some analyses out of control. It can be argued that control limits that are set such that there is a zero failure rate is an inappropriate control limit. Furthermore this penalizes laboratories that have done more analyses (real or PT) since the more samples processed, the more likely failures occur.
- A4 The bidder's submission should include a description of their criteria for being "in control". We do not expect a zero failure rate. We want to see that the bidder has a quality control program and that their analyses remain in control, and that the bidder participates in PE studies. As shown by the scoring a bidder may have some failures and still receive a "passing" score for those criteria.
- Q5 Can Environment Canada please confirm the aqueous vs solids desired detection limits in Table 8 for OPFRs? The ratio of desired detection limits from the waters to solids is more severe or pronounced than in any other of the target groups. Logically and to be consistent with other

test groups, it would appear that the waters desired detection limits should be lower or the solids higher.

- A5 These are "desired" detection limits. The bidder should propose the detection limits that their experience and technology can achieve.
- Currently in the RFP, there are no defined restrictions on appropriate methodology for any or each of the analytical groups. For example, GC/ECD methods could be developed for selected target groups such as Table 1 BDPE and Table 6 CP. While such methods may achieve the desired detection limits these would not be expected to meet the data quality objectives of methods that include mass discrimination. For example, the RFP as currently worded remains open to possible competition between GC/ECD methods against methods such as EPA method 1614A for BDPE, where data quality is anticipated to be dramatically different and where the price base is also dramatically different. Can Environment Canada confirm that all (or selected) methods applicable for this bid need to include mass discrimination such that the data provided would be relatively interference free and quantitative for the target groups from the matrices of concern?"
- A6 The bidder is expected to use analytical technology that includes mass spectrometry for all methods.

End