

RFP # 5000038980
ANALYSIS OF CONTAMINANTS ON FISH TISSUES

BIDDER QUESTIONS AND ECCC RESPONSES

	BIDDER QUESTIONS	ECCC RESPONSES
1	Section II of Financial Bid Breakdown requests further detail (Section 1.1) beyond unit costs of analysis requested in Annex B. The incremental detail requested in Section 1.1 is not applicable to unit cost pricing for analysis. Please confirm whether section 1.1 financial breakdown is applicable or required.	Unit cost(s) of analysis is required. Financial breakdown in Section 1.1 is requested only as applicable.
	Questions Regarding Annex A – Statement of Work	
2A	Analyte lists for PBDEs, HBCDD Isomers, and Alkylphenols are fairly standard in terms of grouping of analysis and alignment with developed methods. The category “other halogenated flame retardants” contains a wide variety of chemistry, some of which are relatively new in terms of study, and the grouping of analyte lists into one test as written is likely not to occur for a variety of reasons. The following questions the list as provided in the category “other halogenated flame retardants” Are all compounds identified in the category mandatory or will analysis which may not contain all compounds be accepted?	No, they are not mandatory, and the results can be generated using multiple methods. The methods should be described in the bid and a clear breakdown of costs per analysis should be provided as part of the financial bid.
2B	There are often many other similar chemistries requested for the category “other halogenated flame retardants” under CMP programs. Is there value to ECCC for incremental compounds that may grouped in the same analysis? A proprietary list with CAS No. corresponding to the analytical compound measured can be made available, if requested.	The Bidder can propose to provide the requested data for the parameters of interest in any way they deem appropriate. The groupings in the RFP were not meant to reflect analytical grouping but rather the requirements of Environment and Climate Change Canada.
2C	The compounds DBDPE, PBEB, HBB, and BTBPE (and BB 101) are often run within the HRMS PBDE methodology. Please confirm if this is acceptable.	Yes, this is acceptable.
2D	The compound OBIND is very high molecular weight and is problematic in measurement with other compounds. Please confirm whether this compound is mandatory or optional.	It is not mandatory but it is a desired measurement.
	Questions on the Point Rated Criteria	
3A	PR2 – The request for experience in PR2 is based on whole body homogenates exclusively, which is at odds with mandatory criteria where fish and aquatic biota experience is requested. For newer tests groups experience may be limited if only one type of fish sample is included. Please confirm that fillets, fish organs, or fish composites may be used for this point rated criteria.	These sample types are acceptable.
3B	PR3 – The method reporting limits as EDLs are based on 2.5.1 signal to noise ratios for full method samples (as opposed to instrument detection limits). As EDLs represent the lowest reported values for a sample or method blank, the points allotted for method blanks	Yes, this will be acceptable.

	(based on being 10X, or 10-3X lower than these values) cannot be met by the definition requested. Is it possible to submit blank control limits (based on mean plus two standard deviations) for evaluation, in conjunction with normally achieved reporting limits.	
3C	PR4 – Please confirm the rated criterion is recovery of native compounds in spiked blank matrix control samples. Surrogate recovery for isotope dilution methods generally has wider limits while maintaining accuracy and precision of native compounds.	The criterion will remain as posted.
3D	PR5 – PE studies for Alkylphenols and “other halogenated flame retardants” in tissue do not exist. For other compounds the number of parameters is limited and the 90% criteria will not be met. The current criterion does not seem to be viable. Please confirm if this criterion will be adjusted to evaluate participation in the limited number of tissue PEs available in this area.	If these studies do not exist, then all bidders will be assessed on the same grounds with a maximum score of 6 out of 10.