



**RETURN BIDS TO:**

**RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:**

Public Works and Government Services Canada  
100-167 Lombard Avenue  
Winnipeg  
Manitoba  
R3B 0T6  
Bid Fax: (204) 983-0338

**Revision to a Request for Supply  
Arrangement - Révision à une demande  
pour un arrangement en matière  
d'approvisionnement**

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  
Northern Contaminated Site Program  
ATB Place North Tower  
10025 Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton  
Alberta  
T5J 1S6

<b>Title - Sujet</b> Laboratory Analysis Services	
<b>Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation</b> ET959-190626/A	<b>Date</b> 2019-01-09
<b>Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client</b> PWGSC	<b>Amendment No. - N° modif.</b> 003
<b>File No. - N° de dossier</b> NCS-8-41045 (030)	<b>CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME</b>
<b>GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG</b> PW-\$NCS-030-11499	
<b>Date of Original Request for Supply Arrangement</b> 2018-11-28 <b>Date de demande pour un arrangement en matière d'app. originale</b>	
<b>Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin</b> <b>at - à 02:00 PM</b> <b>on - le 2019-01-25</b>	
<b>Time Zone</b> <b>Fuseau horaire</b> Central Standard Time CST	
<b>Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à:</b> Calixto, Monnette	<b>Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur</b> ncs030
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> (204) 899-9768 ( )	<b>FAX No. - N° de FAX</b> (204) 983-7796
<b>Delivery Required - Livraison exigée</b>	
<b>Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction:</b> <b>Destination - des biens, services et construction:</b>	
<b>Security - Sécurité</b> This revision does not change the security requirements of the solicitation. Cette révision ne change pas les besoins en matière de sécurité de l'invitation.	

**Instructions: See Herein**

**Instructions: Voir aux présentes**

<b>Acknowledgement copy required</b> <b>Accusé de réception requis</b>	<b>Yes - Oui</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>No - Non</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>The Offeror hereby acknowledges this revision to its Offer.</b> <b>Le proposant constate, par la présente, cette révision à son offre.</b>		
<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>	
Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of offeror. (type or print) Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du proposant. (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)		
<b>For the Minister - Pour le Ministre</b>		

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**Amendment 003 to Solicitation No. ET959-190626/A is raised to address the following:**

**Question #1**

There is information requested under Section 2.3 “Former Public Servant – Notification” and Section 2.4 “Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity – Notification” (p. 8 of the RFSA) that is to be included with the bid solicitation. We are unsure where this information is to be included: Section III: Certifications, Section I: Technical Arrangement, or a cover letter?

**Answer #1**

This information can be included under Section III: Certifications

**Question #2**

In Annex “B”, B) Evaluation Criteria, Mandatory Technical Criteria, Bullet 2, it is stated that the Supplier must provide a copy of their current taxonomic accreditation with the Arrangement. Should these certificates be included in Section I: Technical Arrangement, Section II: Financial Arrangement as part of Annex “C”, or Section III: Certifications?

**Answer #2**

This information can be included under Section III: Certifications

**Question #3**

In Annex “B”, B) Evaluation Criteria, Mandatory Technical Criteria, Bullet 4, Suppliers are to indicate the geographic location in which their company can provide services. Does this refer to the location of the Supplier's laboratory, or the locations from which samples are collected that the Supplier is able to process?

**Answer #3**

No, this does not refer to the location of the Supplier's laboratory. Canada is asking the Supplier if their company can provide service for the provinces listed in Annex B.

**Question #4**

In our experience, most Aquatic Life analyses typically exceed the 5 day, 3 day, and 1 day turnaround times. This is touched on in the 7<sup>th</sup> bullet on Page 29 of the RFSA. Accordingly, can we leave Table B of Annex C blank and instead reference our price list?

**Answer #4**

Please refer to Solicitation Amendment #001 dated December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. There is a revised Basis of Payment which includes a column for >5 day turnaround. Please also refer to the first bullet of Annex C:

**It is MANDATORY that Offerors submit a discount percentage for one or more of the following categories:** i) Water and Waste Water, ii) Sediment and Soil, and iii) all Aquatic Life listed below for this Arrangement. Offerors are not obligated to submit discount percentages for all categories, only categories for which they can perform work under.

Offerors are not obligated to submit discount percentages for all categories, only for categories for which they can perform work under. So if they can provide service for the >5 day turnaround – they should mark a percentage discount here – and if they don't intend on offering a discount but can provide the service for that category, they should indicate it's zero.

#### **Question #5**

With respect to after hours and urgent service, the RFSA indicates that proponents are to provide a discount off the fee guide. After hours and urgent service are typically surcharged and not discounted. Is it acceptable to provide a surcharge instead of a discount 1-, 3-, or 5 day turnaround service and how should this be shown in Table B of Annex C? Can columns be added to Table B of Annex C where would one indicate discounts for samples with no urgent turnaround times?

#### **Answer #5**

Please refer to the 7<sup>th</sup> bullet of Annex C:

In cases where the actual time for analysis exceeds the stated turnaround times listed below, turnaround times and surcharges must be agreed to prior to issuing the contract. The agreed upon TAT and surcharges must be documented in writing in the work plan and corresponding contract.

Columns cannot be added to Table B of Annex C. Suppliers can indicate discounts for samples with no urgent turnaround times under the 5 Day (Routine) Turnaround Time Column.

#### **Question #6**

Are the percent discounts given in Table B of Annex C cumulative? For analysis which includes both density and biomass analysis, would the percent discounts be combined resulting in a higher discount?

#### **Answer #6**

No, they are not cumulative and No, they would not be combined resulting in a higher discount.

#### **Question #7**

In the RFSA, the numbering appears to jump from Section 5.1.2.1 on page 11 and 12 to Section 5.1.3.1 on Page 13. I just want to make sure I am not missing something contained within a heading of Section 5.1.3?

#### **Answer #7**

5.1.3.1 follows 5.1.2.1.

#### **Question #8**

On page 27 of the RFSA it mentions the North American Benthological Society (NABS) when referring to taxonomic certifications. This same society is now called Society for Freshwater Science (SFS). We would like to confirm that our taxonomist's accreditation with SFS will be considered an equivalent?

#### **Answer #8**

Yes as it has been confirmed that NABS is now known as SFS. <https://freshwater-science.org/about>

## History of the Society

The Society was founded as the Midwest Benthological Society by 13 charter members at Havana, Illinois, in the spring of 1953. The first annual meetings attracted the Midwest's best benthic scientists, which led to rapid increases in membership and a diversification within the society. Later renamed the North American Benthological Society, and most recently the Society for Freshwater Science, the society has expanded from our early and ongoing specialization in stream insect ecology to include a range of disciplinary interests from genes to landscapes. SFS has also expanded from its core focus on lotic

freshwater ecosystems to benthic habitats in wetlands, estuaries, and oceans, and to the riparian and shorelands.

**Question #9**

Please clarify what is meant in Annex B/B4 regarding the provinces in which the company can provide services. Does this mean that the Service Provider needs to perform work in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Northwest Territories and/or Nunavut? Or can the work be performed in Ontario?

**Answer #9**

Canada is asking the Supplier if their company can provide service for the provinces/territories listed in Annex B.

**Question #10**

Does the Service Provider need to conduct field sampling or will samples be collected by Canada and then sent to the Service Provider for identification?

**Answer #10**

Samples will be collected by Canada and will then be sent to the Service Provider for analysis.

**Question #11**

In Annex C/Table B (as found in Amended Table B dated 2018-12-05) there are categories for Density Analysis, Biomass Analysis and Other Analysis; would benthic invertebrate identification services be correctly included under "Other Analysis"?

**Answer #11**

If Benthic invertebrates do not fall under Benthic Macroinvertebrates, then yes, it would fall under "All other types of Aquatic Life analyses not listed above including but not limited to fish and marine mammals".

**Question #12**

The % Discount calculation are difficult to determine for benthic invertebrate identifications, because we have never received just a single sample to sort and identify. It would be possible to offer a discount if it were only a single sample, but it would not be possible if there were multiple samples. Thus, I would have to use the >5 Day TAT column on Annex C/Table B. Would that disqualify us?

**Answer #12**

Please refer to Solicitation Amendment #001 dated December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to the 1st bullet and 8<sup>th</sup> bullet of Annex C:

**It is MANDATORY that Offerors submit a discount percentage for one or more of the following categories:** i) Water and Waste Water, ii) Sediment and Soil, and iii) all Aquatic Life listed below for this Arrangement. Offerors are not obligated to submit discount percentages for all categories, only categories for which they can perform work under.

**Analyses Not Listed** We recognize that over the course of the Supply Arrangement, Client Departments and Agencies may need to request other tests not specified above. In these cases, the basis of payment for tests not listed above shall be the supplier's current Analysis Price Catalogue in effect less a specific percentage (to be provided in the cost proposal) plus any applicable surcharge for urgent tests or any applicable discount for bulk analysis.

**Question #13**

Is submission via email to [ROReceptionSoumissions.WRBidReceiving@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:ROReceptionSoumissions.WRBidReceiving@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca) acceptable, or are the bids required to be mailed?

**Answer #13**

Please refer to the Request for Supply Arrangement (RFSA) Part 3 – Arrangement Preparation Instructions – 3.1 Arrangement Preparation. It is at the Suppliers discretion how they will submit their bids.

**Question #14**

1. Addendum 1 page 2:

">5 day (routine) TAT": how does this differ from the regular 5-day TAT? The definition given suggests that these items are the same.

**Answer #14**

>5 day (routine) TAT is greater than 5 days. 5-day TAT is a 5 day TAT. The word (routine) should have been removed from >5 day.

**Question #15**

Is the Catalogue of rates to be included in the Technical Section, or the Financial Section? It is currently listed under Mandatory Technical Criteria in Annex "B", Section B3.

**Answer #15**

It is listed under Mandatory Technical Criteria in Annex B because it is a Mandatory requirement and should be submitted in the appropriate section. It should be submitted with the Financial section as it includes rates/prices.

**ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN UNCHANGED.**