

**Questions and Answers 1 – W6369-20-X033 – RFP – Environmental Compliance Auditors**

| Number     | Questions/Answers/Modifications  |
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| Question 1 | <p>With regard to the above solicitation, we have noted that, among other criteria, the bidder must demonstrate that the proposed resources have a valid Compliance Environmental Auditor (CEA) certification issued by the Canadian Environmental Certification Approvals Board (CECAB). Is the certification delivered by the Quebec Association of Environmental Auditing (AQVE) also acceptable for MT1?</p>   |
| Answer 1   | <p>The Department of National Defence is a federal organization with workplaces in the ten provinces and three territories. This being said, applicable environmental law includes federal legislation and requires a firm grasp of the laws in each province.</p> <p>The Quebec Association of Environmental Auditing (AQVE) awards the title of Compliance Environmental Auditor (CEA) according to the requirements of the Standards Council of Canada. The process for obtaining certification includes the need to demonstrate the skills acquired.</p> <p>Appendix C of the Certification Criteria Certified Environmental Auditor (CEA) on the AQVE site indicates:</p> <p>[Translation]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scope of practice – The training must include a minimum of the following content for someone to be deemed to have acquired the skills required to practice environmental auditing in Quebec.</li><li>• Qualification in environmental law – Knowledge of the environmental acts and regulations of <b>Quebec</b> and Canada.</li></ul> <p>(<a href="http://aqve.com/Documents/D005CriteresAagrementVEA_V2_FRApprouve.pdf">http://aqve.com/Documents/D005CriteresAagrementVEA_V2_FRApprouve.pdf</a>)</p> <p>The AQVE criteria seem designed for environmental compliance audits in Quebec.</p> <p>Since DND is a Canadian organization with a presence in Quebec and the nine other provinces and three territories, it is essential to have qualified auditors at the national level. There seems to be a discrepancy between the certification required by DND and AQVE's criteria to obtain a CEA, as well as a difference in scopes of practice. Given the risk level, DND is uneasy about accepting the AQVE's CEA certification as an equivalent.</p> <p>DND has thus examined the question and the solicitation will remain unchanged.</p> |