

Questions and Answers 2 – W6369-20-X033 – RFP – Environmental Compliance Auditors

Number	Questions/Answers/Modifications
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"> • 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. • Qualification in environmental law – Knowledge of the environmental acts and regulations of Quebec and Canada. <p>(http://aqve.com/Documents/D005CriteresAagrementVEA_V2_FRapprouve.pdf)</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>
Question 2	<p>The document in several sections (Page 18 RT2; Page 19 RT3; Page 43 RT2; Page 44 RT3) references ISO Registration Audits. The requirement relates to experience "leading ISO Registration Audits". Does this refer to a Third Party Registration audit (these are performed by a Registrar for the purpose of assessing conformity with the ISO 14001 Standard AND the granting of a Certificate of Registration. They are Certification or Accreditation audits) or to an internal audit at an organization which is registered to the ISO 14001 Standard for the purpose of assessing conformity with the ISO 14001 Standard in line with the Internal Audit requirements of the Standard?</p>
Answer 2	<p>National Defence is using the term "ISO 14001 registration audits" to mean: third party audits using qualified ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems Lead</p>

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	<p>Auditors that result in an accreditation body recognised by the Standards Council of Canada issuing a registration certificate (certification) to an organisation.</p> <p>Accreditation bodies and their scopes of application are published on the Standards Council of Canada web site: https://www.scc.ca/en/accreditation/management-systems/directory-of-accredited-bodies-and-scopes</p>
Question 3	<p>In terms of the performance of the environmental compliance audits, can the Department of National Defence indicate how many proposed audits are planned per year and the proposed location of the audits for year 1 to 3?</p>
Answer 3	<p>The Department of National Defence is seeking environmental compliance auditors on an as and when required basis. Each audit will be initiated through a Task Authorization that will be discussed with the Contractor before any work is conducted. Page 11 of 51 of the RFP provides an estimated level of service for the work to be conducted. Each audit is anticipated to be approximately 6 to 10 person days.</p>