



<p>RETURN BIDS TO: RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:</p> <p>Bid Receiving - Environment Canada / Réception des soumissions – Environnement Canada</p> <p>Electronic Copy: ec.soumissions-bids.ec@canada.ca</p> <p>BID SOLICITATION AMENDMENT MODIFICATION DE LA DEMANDE DE SOUMISSIONS</p> <p>The referenced Bid Solicitation is revised in this document; unless otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions of the Bid Solicitation remain the same.</p> <p>La demande de soumissions citée en référence est modifiée dans ce document; sauf indication contraire, les modalités de la demande de soumissions demeurent les mêmes.</p>	<p>Title – Titre Knowledge Synthesis and Knowledge Gap Identification to support the implementation of the Canada-Ontario Lake Erie Action Plan</p>	
	<p>EC Bid Solicitation No./SAP PR No. - N° de la demande de soumissions EC / N° SAP PR 5000054032</p>	<p>Amendment No. - N° de modif. 002</p>
	<p>Date of Bid Solicitation (YYYY-MM-DD) – Date de la demande de soumissions (AAAA-MM-JJ) 2020-10-14</p>	
	<p>Bid Solicitation Closes (YEAR-MM-DD) - La demande de soumissions prend fin (AAAA-MM-JJ) at – à 15 :00h on – 2020-11-20</p>	<p>Time Zone – Fuseau horaire EST</p>
	<p>F.O.B – F.A.B</p>	
	<p>Address Enquiries to - Adresser toutes questions à Shawn Davis shawn.davis@canada.ca</p>	
	<p>Telephone No. – No de téléphone</p>	<p>Fax No. – No de Fax</p>
	<p>Delivery Required (YEAR-MM-DD) – Livraison exigée (AAAA-MM-JJ) 2022-03-15</p>	
	<p>Destination of Services / Destination des services Ontario</p>	
	<p>Security / Sécurité There is no security requirement associated with this requirement.</p>	

Section II: Financial Bid

1. Bidders must submit their financial bid in accordance in accordance with the Basis of Payment in Annex B. The total amount of Applicable Taxes must be shown separately.

Delete:

1.1 Price Breakdown

In their financial bid, the bidders are requested to provide a detailed breakdown of the price for the following elements for each task of the Work, as applicable:

- (a) Professional fees: For each individual and (or) labour category to be assigned to the Work, the bidders should indicate: i) the firm hourly rate or the firm daily rate, inclusive of overhead and profit; and ii) the estimated number of hours or days, as applicable. The bidders should indicate the number of hours in one working day.

The professional fees must include the total estimated cost of all travel and living expenses that may need to be incurred for:

- (i) Work described in Part 6, Resulting Contract of the bid solicitation required to be performed within the Ontario Region;
- (ii) travel between the successful bidder's place of business and Canada Centre for Inland Waters;
- (iii) the relocation of resources.

to satisfy the terms of any resulting contract. These expenses cannot be charged directly and separately from the professional fees to any contract that may result from the bid solicitation.)

- (b) Equipment (if applicable): The bidders should specify each item required to complete the Work and provide the pricing basis of each one, Canadian customs duty and excise taxes included, as applicable. These items will be deliverable to Canada upon completion of the contract.
- (c) Materials and Supplies (if applicable): The bidders should identify each category of materials and supplies required to complete the Work and provide the pricing basis. The Bidder should indicate, on a per category basis, whether the items are likely to be consumed during the performance of any resulting contract.
- (d) Travel and Living Expenses (if applicable): The bidders should indicate the number of trips and the number of days for each trip, the cost, destination and purpose of each journey, together with the basis of these costs without exceeding the meal, private vehicle and incidental expenses provided in Appendices B, C and D of the *National Joint Council Travel Directive* and with the other provisions of the directive referring to "travellers", rather than those referring to "employees".
- (e) Subcontracts (if applicable): The bidders should identify all of the proposed subcontractors and provide in their financial bid for each one a price breakdown.
- (f) Other Direct Charges (if applicable): The bidders should identify all of the categories of other direct charges anticipated, such as long distance communications and rentals, providing the pricing basis for each and explaining the relevance to the work described in the resultant contract in part 6 of the bid solicitation.
- (g) Applicable Taxes: The bidders should indicate the Applicable Taxes separately.

Insert:

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- (b) Equipment (if applicable): The bidders should specify each item required to complete the Work and provide the pricing basis of each one, Canadian customs duty and excise taxes included, as applicable. These items will be deliverable to Canada upon completion of the contract.
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- (d) Subcontracts (if applicable): The bidders should identify all of the proposed subcontractors and provide in their financial bid for each one a price breakdown.
- (e) Other Direct Charges (if applicable): The bidders should identify all of the categories of other direct charges anticipated, such as long distance communications and rentals, providing the pricing basis for each and explaining the relevance to the work described in the resultant contract in part 6 of the bid solicitation.
- (f) Applicable Taxes: The bidders should indicate the Applicable Taxes separately.

PART 6 - RESULTING CONTRACT

Delete:

3.1 General Conditions

[2010B \(2018-06-21\) General Conditions - Professional Services \(Medium Complexity\), as modified below, apply to and form part of the Contract.](#)

Insert:

[2010B \(2020-05-28\) General Conditions - Professional Services \(Medium Complexity\), as modified below, apply to and form part of the Contract.](#)

This amendment is also to address the enquiries received:

5000054032 – Questions and Answers #1

Q1. Further to the above solicitation, is ECCC able to provide an example of a policy theme that might be investigated in this study?

A2. Please see two examples below:

SCIENCE THEMES FOR ECCC

Theme 1 and Theme 2 are related. The contractor will undertake to complete a Consensus Statement around each Theme, which will be addressed to answering a specific policy question, which the contractor will help facilitate. Below are short introductions to two of the Science themes.

Theme 1: Influence of soil type

Most studies investigating the behaviour of Phosphorus (P) in soils, including those related to soil type, transformation of P in conveyance systems, and legacy P, investigate a range of P fractions, typically (although not always) obtained through Hedley fractionation. Hedley sequential phosphorus fractionation (the sequential use of different chemicals to extract phosphorus from soil) recognizes different bioavailable forms (the term plant-available or labile may be used instead of bioavailable) and refractory forms (inert and not bioavailable, although some recent research disputes this understanding for cyanobacteria) of soil phosphorus. Hedley fractionation can also separate organically bound soil phosphorus from the geochemically bound phosphorus. Some studies also report Olsen P, a measure of soil fertility. Of the independent variables found to be important in these processes, soil type/ composition; organic matter; pH; and temperature were among the most important. The movement of P, including legacy P, from the field into streams and ultimately the lake is governed by a complex suite of physical, chemical and biological factors. The lag time between BMP implementation and water quality response in the lake will be determined by the key rate-limiting (slowest responding) parts of the system.

Theme 2: P transformation through conveyance systems, including tile drains

The literature on P in conveyance systems, including tile drainage, demonstrates that many of the same factors described in the previous section are also important in understanding P transformation through conveyance. One common indicator employed is the ratio of Soluble Reactive Phosphorus (SRP) to TP, sometimes also considered in terms of correlation with Total Suspended Solids (TSS). For example, Clement (2016) studied the variability of P in tile drainage systems, both spatially and temporally, to determine the importance of those systems as a source of P and assess the bioavailability of tile drain P. They found that P concentrations in tile drainage varied significantly among sample sites, with the highest P loads occurring during the non-growing season. Tile drain SRP, TP, and %SRP varied both spatially and temporally in the Macatawa watershed (west Michigan). SRP concentrations ranged from below detection to 0.447 mg L⁻¹, while TP concentrations ranged from 10 to 560 mg L⁻¹. Clement (2016) also found a positive correlation between the SRP:TP ratio measured at the tile drain outlets and the acreage drained by the tile system. Their findings about the biological implications of tile drain P were less conclusive. Four of six bioassays resulted in a positive relationship between SRP and algal growth, but results from only one bioassay were statistically significant. And while the researchers had predicted elevated cyanobacteria levels in response to exposure to tile drain water, the results in fact showed that the algal community structure when incubated in tile drain water was dominated by diatoms, not cyanobacteria as expected. They conclude that it is important to quantify the area of tile drainage, and to manage for high P loads during the non-growing season.

Q2. I have a question pertaining to the above bid solicitation, Part 6 (Resulting Contract), Section 3 (Standard Clauses and Conditions), Subsection 35 Liability.

"The Contractor is liable for any damage caused by the Contractor, its employees, subcontractors, or agents to Canada or any third party. Canada is liable for any damage caused by Canada, its employees or agents to the Contractor or any third party. The Parties agree that no limitation of liability or indemnity provision applies to the Contract unless it is specifically incorporated in full text in the Articles of Agreement. Damage includes any injury to persons (including injury resulting in death) or loss of or damage to property (including real property) caused as a result of or during the performance of the Contract."

Is Environment and Climate Change Canada willing to add the following text at the end of the subsection?

"Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, in no event shall the aggregate liability of Contractor and its affiliates for professional errors and omissions in connection with this Contract or the Work hereunder exceed the amount equal to five (5) times the amount actually paid to Contractor by Canada for professional services in connection with this Contract, and Canada specifically releases Contractor and its affiliates for any and all liability, losses or damages in excess of that amount."

A2. No, Environment and Climate Change Canada can not accept the proposed text.

Q3. Can you please provide guidance around how you define a Policy Theme Area? What criteria or considerations might be used to identify a policy theme area?

A3. Policy Themes can be expressed as questions that the synthesis addresses directly, i.e. questions that have emerged from ECCC's experience with the first LEAP. Here are two examples. One example could be in the area of Legacy Phosphorus – How should we account for phosphorus load reductions in the presence of legacy phosphorus? For conveyance, the policy theme/question might be around the influence of soil type on the selection of management practices.

Q4. On page 8, item 1.1. it states that "the experience of the Bidder's affiliates, subcontractors or suppliers will not be considered. Can you clarify what you mean by this? Do you mean that none of the projects provided to satisfy evaluation criteria R1 and R2 can be led or only involve the subcontractors?"

A4. R1 and R2 are evaluating the experience of the project team (which can be sub-contractors) and experience/projects obtained as sub-contractors will be considered.

Q5. Will peer reviewers be compensated for their time / contributions to this project? If so, is there an expectation that the peer reviewers engaged through this project will be compensated using the budget available to the Bidder to undertake this work?

A5. Peer review is an accepted and long, standing process in the professional scientific and academic community. Professionals and academics are not compensated for the review activity, and we are not expecting to compensate the peer reviewers in this process.

Q6. How many people would be involved in Task 5 to reach scientific consensus (e.g., how many ECCC staff or other experts need to be interviewed)?

A6. We have a team of ten possible staff for this task, but it is not expected that all of them will be involved in each review. Nor is it expected that each person will have to be consulted individually, versus a group consultation with a video conference. This is to follow the results of the peer review and any consultation with experts. For each consultation, we are expecting consultations with 1 - 3 experts depending on the complexity of the questions and the identification of experts in these areas.

Q7. Task 3 mentions that the conceptual "models must include drivers that can be managed in addressing each question". What are the "questions" to which the RFP is referring?

A7. These questions would be the Policy Themes

Q8. On page 7 of the RFP, part A states that professional fees “must include the total estimated cost of all travel and living expenses”, yet part D mentions that the number of trips, days per trip, cost, destination, purpose, meal expenses, etc. should be specified. How can these costs be both embedded within professional fees and explicitly listed as project expenses?

A8. See Amendment

Q9. Do sub-consultants have to complete the certification section or just the lead?

A9. Only the bidder is required to complete certifications

Q10. The Bid Solicitation notes in the Point Related Technical Criteria (p. 11 of 25) that “the same projects may be used for each of R1.1, R1.2 and R1.3”.

May the projects identified for R.2 also be used for R1.1, R1.2 and/or R1.3?

A10. Yes

Q11. Could ECCC please provide clarity around the forum under Task 5: Scientific Consensus? It is mentioned here but not in the deliverables. Would the \$200,000 budget include the cost of organizing the delivery of the forum or will that be separate from the budget proposed?

A11. ECCC expects the contractor to cover expenses related to organizing the delivery of the forum from this budget. The Forum is expected to host 100 – 200 participants.

Q12. Will the peer reviewers paid out of the total budget proposed? Or will that be held separate?

A12. Not Applicable, see Q#5

Q13. The Canada Ontario Lake Erie Action Plan contains a plan that identifies performance indicators and an adaptive management approach. Is the intention to further define the performance indicators and add detail to the adaptive management approach that has been envisioned by applying it to each of the selected policy theme areas?

A13. The Canada Ontario Lake Erie Action Plan did identify specific performance indicators. It is the intention to define the performance indicators for each of the selected policy theme areas.

Q14. Given that the project will define 6-8 policy themes, is the intention to focus policy themes for the project to a limited scope (ex. Policy themes around monitoring or policy themes around urban storm water) or is the intention to see policy themes kept at a broader level?

A14. It is not the intention to focus the policy themes around one area, such as monitoring, but they will be specific, not general.

Q15. We are hoping to confirm how the peer reviewers for this project are to be compensated. Do we need to include compensation for peer reviewers within our budget, or would ECCC address this separately?

A15. ECCC follows standard practice within academia, government and other professional sectors and does not compensate its peer reviewers just as ECCC staff are not compensated for doing peer reviews. We consider it an accepted professional practice.

Q16. Is the Forum in task 5 a deliverable within the current budget?

A16. Yes

Q17. Are fees for experts to be paid out of the project budget?

A17. Please see Question 5.

Q18. The RFP mentions 2018-05-22, however online this is listed as superseded?

A18. Please see amendment

All other terms and conditions of the Bid Solicitation remain the same.