

1000218997A – Amendment #4

Please be advised that the Department has been asked for clarification relative to Solicitation 1000218997A and we would like to submit the following information to all prospective bidders to assist in the formulation of bids:

AMENDMENTS:

1. Annex A, Statement of Work, 6.2 Locations of Work, 6.2 AGS Monitoring Locations

Add the following two additional locations to the list of Groundwater Monitoring Wells at 6.2.1: MW-3 and MW-11

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Question #1

Re: R3.3 – Demonstrated commitment to on-the-job training or skills development, training and apprenticeship programs for the Indigenous staff:

Question – proponents are awarded points for providing examples of previous training programs, evidence of training documentation, outline of training topics throughout the year, and objectives and evaluation criteria. We interpret this to mean training we have provided. Are we to also provide a training plan for Indigenous employees for the current contract for environmental and geotechnical monitoring at the two mine sites in order to garner full points for this section?

Answer #1

Detailing the current plan for indigenous training and skill development for AGS and Venus mine in addition to describing successful previous training programs will maximize the point scoring opportunity for Section R3.3

Question #2

Re: Point-Rated Criteria – Criterion b) Management and Organization

Question – proponents are instructed to describe Indigenous employment opportunities in our response to the management and organization section. Are the employment opportunities the same opportunities we describe in our response to item R3.2?

Answer #2

Yes

Question #3

Section M2.1 *The Senior Field Technician(s) minimum 7 yrs demonstrated experience in environmental or engineering field.* If we proposed a candidate with less than 7 years experience, would our submission be disqualified, or would it just be reflected in the scoring for the candidate?

Answer #3

M2.1 are mandatory requirements that have a Meet/Does Not Meet criteria. A submission that does not meet the minimum requirements would be disqualified.

Question #4

Would there be consideration to reduce this experience requirement for the field technician role for candidates who have a relevant post-graduate degree?

Answer #4

No

Question #5

In section 4.2.1.3, it states *"The selection will be based on the highest responsible combined rating of technical merit and price. The ratio will be 70% for the technical merit and 30% for the price."* Later in the RFP, The table that illustrates and example, the Technical Merit Score is afforded 60% of the marks and the Pricing Score is afforded 40% of the marks. Can you please confirm which way responses to this RFP will be ranked?

Answer #5

The table is illustrating an example of how the scoring works. The ratio will be 70% for the technical merit and 30% for the price, as stated.

Question #6

Who is the Project Authority for this Contract?

Answer #6

The name and contact information for the Project Authority will be provided to the successful bidder upon contract award.

Question #7

In Section 6.7.2.1, the value of Canada's total liability to the Contractor under the Contract must not exceed has been left blank. Can Canada provide that value?

Answer #7

To be provided at contract award, will be based upon the successful bidder's proposed price.

Question #8

Does Canada have a laboratory selected to conduct the analytical work? Or does Canada anticipate that the consultant will create a contract (and manage that contract as part of this program) with a CALA Certified Laboratory? If the Contractor is expected to manage the laboratory contract, will it be acceptable to charge a 10% mark up to manage that work?

Answer #8

The contractor will be responsible for selecting a CALA laboratory. As per Annex B, direct expenses will be reimbursed at cost without mark-up, upon submission of an itemized statement supported by receipt vouchers.

Question #9

Will Canada be supplying the field equipment (from sampling equipment to trucks, ATV's and snow machines) to complete the work? Or does Canada anticipate that the consultant will rent this equipment with a zero mark up? (as stated in the RFP in Annex B, under Other Direct Expenses, "*The Contractor will be reimbursed for the direct expenses reasonably and properly incurred in the performance of the Work these expense will be paid at actual cost without mark-up, upon submission of an itemized statement supported by receipt vouchers.*")

Answer #9

The proponent is expected to supply all field equipment, expenses to be reimbursed at cost ,without mark-up.

Question #10

Why are MW-3 and MW-11 at AGS not being sampled?

Answer #10

MW-3 and MW-11 were inadvertently missed in the list of monitoring wells to be sampled at AGS. They should both be checked and sampled. (See above Amendment #1). MW-3 is typically dry for all sampling events and therefore a check of the well is typically all that is required.

Question #11

Clarification to Statement of Work 8.1 Who is the monitoring plan submitted to? In Year One the Project Authority will develop and provide the Monitoring Plan to the Consultant. Is the expectation that the Consultant update the plan provided and re-submit?

Answer #11

Yes. As per Statement of Work, 8.6 and 8.11, updated Monitoring Plans are required prior to year two and the option year, for submission to the Project Authority.

Question #12

8.4.1. The Year One Interim report must include a summary of the Monitoring events from April 2020 to August 2020. Since Year one starts in June 2020 will Canada Provide the information from the April and May 2020 Monitoring events?

Answer #12

The 2019/20 Monitoring Consultant will include all data prior to the start of the 2020/21 consultant in their summary report and hence it will not be necessary to report any data collected prior to the start of the contract.

Question #13

In Section 8. (Deliverables), Canada requests “*Presentation and analysis of all monitoring results*” and “*Comparison with historical water quality data and trend analysis*”, and refers the reader to the Table of Contents provided in Appendix 1. The Table of Contents provided includes Results (Section 4), but does not provide an indication of the level of interpretation of the data required to meet the reporting requirements. Can you please specify the level of detail desired in the Interpretation of data in the Annual Report?

Answer #13

The successful bidder will receive a copy of the previous Annual Summary Report. This report will provide the level of detail required.

Question #14

As stated in Section 6.4.1, the contract ends on April 30, 2022 and in Section 8.10 the Year Two summary is to be submitted that day. Will there be any consideration for time to complete edits to the draft report?

Answer #14

The Final Year Two Summary Report shall be submitted on April 30, 2022 as per 8.10. A draft report shall be submitted 3 weeks prior to the Project Authority to allow review and completion of edits to the draft report.

Question #15

Note – In M2 (Proposed Resources), it states “*Accreditation for professional resources can be in any jurisdiction in Canada. It should be noted, however, that to actually perform work in Yukon, engineers, and geoscientists are required to become licensed with Engineers Yukon*”. Please note that Engineers Yukon only licenses engineers and not geoscientists. Does Canada require these reports to be stamped by a registered engineer?

Answer #15

No

Question #16

In M2, Canada asks to see copies of valid professional accreditation or certification to satisfy the requirement and must be provided. Is registration with an electronic scan of the annual professional accreditation required, or would the registrants License number be sufficient.?

Answer #16

In M2 it specifies that a copy of accreditation/degrees is required. An electronic scan would be considered a copy, but the License number would not.

Question #17

Does Canada anticipate costs associated to repair or or maintenance to the wells? Or will maintenance and repairs to the wells be addressed as a change order?

Answer #17

Canada does not anticipate costs associated to repair or maintenance to the wells.

Question #18

The tables provided on page 34 and ending on page 38 outlining the Point Rated Criteria response guidelines seems to be missing a top-level R2 headings for "Management and Organization". It appears that sections R1.3 and R2.1 would likely be grouped together under R2 – Management and Organization if that section were to exist. Please confirm if the table, in its current format, is correct.

Answer #18

The table in its current format is correct.

Question #19

There appears to a be conflict in the number of years' experience required for the Project Professional(s) and the Senior Field Technician(s) as described in the Mandatory and Rated Criteria tables. In the Mandatory Table a "Minimum of 7 years demonstrated experience" is noted for both positions, while in the Rated Criteria Table, it suggests maximum points will only be awarded to candidates with "greater than 10 years" experience in either role. Please clarify if this is correct.

Answer #19

M2.1 and R2.1 are correct.

Question #20

In Annex B – Basis of Payment, the RFP notes that the max value for "Travel and Living Expenses" and "Other Direct Expenses" will be established at contract award. We would like to confirm that we are expected to supply only the hourly rates for our staff as per Attachment 2 to Part 4 of the Bid as part of our submission and that no other costs associated with completing the work are required at the time of proposal submission.

Answer #20

Correct. The financial proposal should be prepared as per Attachment 2 to Part 4.

Question #21

The resumes for the Senior Field Technician positions are limited to two pages, yet the requirements are equivalent to the requirements for the other two evaluated positions. Would CIRNAC consider increasing the length of the resume for the Senior Field Technician position?

Answer #21

No

Question #22

For skills i-iv (all positions) up to two points are awarded for each item. To receive the full two points, a resource must demonstrate 10 or more years of experience for that particular skill. Question: If a resource works on two separate projects that involved that skill area and each project started in 2016 and ended in 2019, is this counted as six years of experience or three years of experience for that skill?

Answer #22

Concurrent experience is only counted once. This example would be considered three years of experience.

Question #23

The senior field technician requires 10 years of experience per particular skill i-iv to maximize points. This is typically more experience than required for a Senior Field Technician (and is equivalent to the experience required for the Senior Project Manager and Senior Field Technician positions). Would CIRNAC consider lowering the amount of years required for this position to receive full points?

Answer #23

No

Question #24

Regarding evidence of adequate health and safety training for the Senior Field Technician position. In M2 (page 31), the RFP states that resumés that include certifications should include the year the training was taken and/or the validity period for the training. Does CIRNAC also require copies of the safety training certificates?

Answer #24

No

Question #25

Should proponents list health and safety training that has expired? For example, one of our resources was slated to renew his Advanced Wilderness Survival training this spring, but the course was cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis. Therefore, can we list expired safety training with the provision that the resources will have updated their certifications before starting fieldwork (as long as the training is available before then)?

Answer #25

No

Question #26

We are considering either naming the same resource for both a Senior Project Manager and Project Professional position, or the same resource for both a Project Professional or Senior Field Technician position. Our hourly rates for these positions varies. Please confirm that if we name the same resource for two different positions, that resource would be charged at the rate for a particular position that the resource plays on a project (which might vary, depending on the month/year).

Answer #26

Yes, rates can vary as they are based on resource category.

Question #27

We would like to clarify the requirement for Project Summaries. It states that “Projects MUST be completed. Only completed projects will be evaluated.” Does this mean that ongoing monitoring projects cannot be used as a project reference?

Answer #27

Correct, ongoing projects will not be evaluated for Project Summaries.