

PSC #09-02-13

Technical Staff Support for Order No.: 85385 in Case No.: 9298 Minutes from the Pre-Proposal Conference Held on May 30, 201

General Questions concerning the RFP.

Q. Regarding the MBE participation, are woman owned businesses included in that certification.
A. As long as a company is certified with MDOT they are considered an MBE

Q. Does the MBE need to be listed in the MD data base.
A. Yes. For a company to be able to meet the MBE goal they must be certified as an MBE on MDOT's website.

Q. How long does it take for an MBE to be certified?
A. You need to contact MDOT for that information.

Q. The MBE goal is 10%. Can you explain why it is too low?
A. Each solicitation is reviewed for the possibility of sub-contracting opportunities, searches are conducted using both NAICS Codes and key words and the Agency reviews the information to set an attainable goal.
DBM reviewed the information and approved the 10% goal.

Q. Can you be an MBE on a team and also be an MBE Prime?
A. As an MBE Prime, you could also be a non-MBE Prime's MBE sub-contractor.
Since only one (1) award will be made, an MBE could submit a proposal as a Prime and also appear as an MBE sub-contractor on one or more proposals.
NOTE: As an MBE Prime you would need to locate an MBE sub-contractor to meet the 10% MBE goal for your proposal.

Q. Sometimes the MBE's have problems. Will the PSC monitor Prime Contractors on who they use?
A. The PSC will not tell the Prime Contractor who they need to use. It is up to the Prime Contractor to conduct research and choose the MBE they want on their team.
NOTE: As far as MBEs are concern the PSC will monitor the contracts to ensure that the Prime is complying with the participation.

Q. Is the 10% MBE participation a goal or a requirement?
A. It is a goal.
NOTE: If qualified MBEs cannot be located there are documents in the RFP that need to be completed. Look at the Attachment D series. A Prime must perform due diligence and have supporting documentation. Attachment D-2 is for outreach compliance and attachment D-6 is an MBE contractor unavailability certificate. Review page seventy (70) of the RFP if it is anticipated that a waiver will be requested.

Q. What is the budget for the solicitation?

A. A budget has not been set.

Q. Who will pay for the solicitation: the PSC or the EDCs?

A. The PSC.

SCOPE OF WORK QUESTIONS

Note: The dates/timeframe currently listed on the order are anticipated to be moved out by sixty (60) days.

Q. Is the date for questions still five (5) days before the proposal due date?

A. Yes. The last date to receive questions concerning this RFP is end of day Monday, June 24, 2013. The reason is to give the Commission time to research the question, if needed and to issue, post and email the Q & A.

Q. Will the report referred to in the Order be available to the consultant who is awarded the contract?

A. The Order refers to a report to be written by the Commission's consultant. The RFP for the Commission's consultant has not been published. The report will not be available for this RFP. In section 3.2 Scope of Work – Requirements on page twenty-five (25), lists the items the Staff needs assistance with, that report is not listed.

Q. Scope of Work – assisting the Staff with COMAR revisions, is there way to get a sense of the level of effort involved to come up with the firm pricing.

A. Reviewing the relevant documents, reviewing current COMAR regulations and knowing where we are now is all that is available.

Q. Assistance in reviewing the cost/benefit analysis the EDCs are going to put forth (short and long term). Will that be wrapped up in time for inclusion in the Staff's report?

A. Yes.

NOTE: The list of attendees with contact information is attached.