

BID INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
Fixed Price Competitive Bid Solicitation
Carlisle Car & Truck Service / Highlands' Tire & Service
1257 Mt. Holly Pike, South Middleton Township, Carlisle, Cumberland County, PA
PADEP Facility ID #21-63686; USTIF Claim #1999-0159(M)

USTIF understands and appreciates the effort necessary to prepare a well-conceived response to a bid solicitation. As a courtesy, the following summary information is being provided to the bidders.

Number of firms attending pre-bid meeting: 12
Number of bids received: 4
List of firms submitting bids: Alternative Environmental Solutions, Inc.
Converse Consultants
Letterle & Associates, LLC
Mountain Research, LLC

This was a defined Scope of Work bid with challenging technical aspects and so price and technical competence were considered equally as the most heavily weighted evaluation criteria. The range in cost quotes for the four bids received was \$46,988 to \$54,982. Based on the numerical scoring, two of the four bids were determined to meet the "Reasonable and Necessary" criteria established by the Regulations and were deemed acceptable by the evaluation committee for USTIF funding. The claimant reviewed both these bids and selected one for award of the assignment. **The selected bidder was Converse Consultants: Bid Price - \$48,280.**

The attached sheet lists some general comments regarding evaluation of the bids received in response to this solicitation. These comments are intended to provide general evaluative information based on the bids received in response to this solicitation and to assist you in preparing bids for future solicitations.

GENERAL COMMENTS REGARDING EVALUATED BIDS

- When task descriptions presented in a bid response simply reference or copy the Request for Bid (RFB) task descriptions verbatim, it is not clear whether the bidder's technical personnel actually reviewed the RFB and historical site documents, understood the technical requirements, and developed task content that the bidder regarded as necessary and appropriate to accomplish the project objectives. Furthermore, the RFB clearly stated that simply referencing the RFB specifications / requirements or repeating the RFB text verbatim would not be considered a sufficient description of the bidder's proposed scope of work in full and in detail.
- Some bid responses failed to address all of the required elements of the Contaminant Levels Trend Evaluation task. For example, each bid needed to: (1) address the determination of fitted curve mean and prediction limits at the 95% statistical confidence level and (2) recognize that additional analyses may be needed for wells exhibiting anomalous behavior.
- In relative terms, the Numerical Contaminant Fate-and-Transport Modeling task was considered significant for meeting the project objectives successfully. Therefore, the bid responses to this task were scrutinized carefully. Deficiencies such as failing to propose model calibration under the maximum observed extent of site contamination during the previous eight quarters and/or failing to propose completing a 30-year simulation to predict the maximum areal extent over that period were deemed unresponsive.
- Bid responses to the Site Closure / Restoration Activities task were deemed inadequate and unresponsive if they did not consider the clarifications and adjustments provided in response to the bidder questions concerning this task.
- Bid responses that failed to propose including the signed and notarized Environmental Covenant in the Remedial Action Completion Report, as requested in the RFB, were deemed unresponsive.

Again, thank you for participating in this competitive bid solicitation.

Bob

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