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 who submitted bids in response to the solicitation listed above.

Number of firms attending pre-bid meeting: 16
Number of bids received: 13

List of firms submitting bids (alphabetical order):

Alternative Environmental Solutions, Inc.
Apex Companies, LLC
Converse Consultants
Environmental Alliance, Inc.
Gilmore & Associates, Inc.
Liberty Environmental, Inc.
MIG Environmental, LLC
Moriarty Environmental Solutions, Inc.
Mountain Research, LLC
Pennoni Associates, Inc.
Resource Conservation Corporation
Synergy Environmental, Inc.

This was a defined Scope of Work (SOW) bid; therefore, price was the most heavily weighted evaluation criterion. The range in cost associated with the 13 bids received was $41,606.80 to $88,930.00. Based on the numerical scoring, two of the 13 bids was determined to meet the “Reasonable and Necessary” criteria established by the Regulations and was deemed acceptable by the evaluation committee for USTIF funding. However, the claimant selected the accepted bid.

The selected bidder was Alternative Environmental Solutions: Bid Price - $41,606.80.

The attached sheet lists some general comments regarding the evaluation of the 13 bids received for this solicitation. These comments are intended to provide general information that may assist in preparing bids in response to future solicitations.
**GENERAL COMMENTS REGARDING EVALUATED BIDS**

- Bid responses should include a rationale description and details where the words “shall” and “must” are used in the RFB. For example, if the RFB specifications are to: (a) respond to the SOW task in detail; (b) demonstrate the prior site documentation has been reviewed; (c) provide a description and application of the bidder’s conceptual site model interpretation; (d) address specific requirements such as delineating the extent of residual contaminant mass; and (e) identify and provide rationale choice for pump well and observation wells, the bid response must address each specification clearly and fully. With respect to this solicitation, particularly critical RFB requirements were for the bidder to specify (1) a rationale for the proposed pumping well and observations wells for the aquifer test and (2) how the aquifer test data would be analyzed. Failing to respond to these and other specifications at all or fully affects the bid evaluation negatively.

- Bid responses should include enough “original” (i.e., not copied verbatim from the RFB) language and thought that the understanding and approach of the bidding firm can be evaluated. Since bidders on the USTIF list are not prequalified, the technical content of the bid response must equip the evaluation committee and claimant to make a thorough and complete review of the bid and bidder. For example, in the case of this solicitation, bidders distinguished their technical understanding by noting that a property boundary survey in the City of Philadelphia may require the involvement of a city surveyor. In another example, bidders highlighted their understanding of the scope of work by pointing out that if site work had to be performed within 15 feet of the SEPTA tracks, SEPTA would require the selected consultant to undergo SEPTA health & safety training.

- Installation of soil vapor sampling points to total target depth using air-knife and vacuum excavation techniques alone would likely result in compromised sampling points.

- Using an off-property well as the extraction well for the aquifer pump test might further influence migration of the contaminant plume beyond its current limits.

- Discharging treated groundwater generated during the aquifer pump test to the municipal sewer system may be problematic and/or may unnecessarily delay the project schedule versus containerizing the water for off-site disposal.

- The qualifications section of the bid response is to include at least brief resumes of the proposed project staff highlighting education and work experience.