

## **Request for Statements of Qualifications (SOQs): Columbus (MS) Proposed NPL Site**

### **Response to consultant questions on Request for Qualifications (RFQ):**

1. Is there a general scoring system for evaluating proposals?

RESPONSE:

*There is no general scoring system for the SOQs. Selection will be based upon the consultants' (or consultant team's) demonstrated experience in the bulleted requirements that are listed in Section 3 of the RFQ (See "Body of the SOQ must include"). The RFP, which will be sent to up to five (5) qualified consultants (or consultant teams), will contain proposal evaluation criteria.*

2. What font size is required for the 10-page limit?

RESPONSE:

*Font size shall not be less than 10-point.*

3. Are Cover Page, Table of Contents, Tabs excluded from page count?

RESPONSE:

*Yes.*

4. Can we use 11x17 paper, and if so, does 11x17 paper count as one or two pages?

RESPONSE:

*You may use 11x17 paper. Each 11x17 page will be counted as two pages.*

5. Under the item "Relevant Information", is this information subject to page count, and would this include items such as business license, licenses, etc?

RESPONSE:

*Yes, only resumes, cover page, table of contents, and tabs are excluded from the ten page limit.*

6. Regarding the requirement for knowledge of TarGOST®, will the experience of a subcontractor suffice for this?

RESPONSE:

*Yes.*

7. Regarding the requirement for the name and resume of the project manager who will be based in the Columbus area, please define the "Columbus Area" in miles radius of the City. Is the Project Manager expected to live in Columbus for the duration of the project, or are commutes within 2 hours acceptable? {Similar question: On page 2, the RFQ asks that the respondent provide the name and resume of the proposed project manager *who will be based in the Columbus area*. Is it required that a full time project manager be located in Columbus, MS?}

RESPONSE:

*The objective is to have a Project Manager (PM) that is readily available to visit the site, can form relationships with community stakeholders, and is available to attend community meetings.*

8. Regarding the requirement for a minimum of three representative project descriptions that include key staff (including project manager) and describes their specific roles and responsibilities, do the project descriptions included have to contain the proposed key staff?

RESPONSE:

*Yes, proposed key staff for this RFQ should be the same staff involved in the representative project descriptions.*

9. Regarding the requirement for minority-owned, women-owned, or small business enterprise resources that will be incorporated to support tasks, how important is this criteria in the evaluation process?

RESPONSE:

*Selection will be based upon all of the bulleted requirements that are listed in Section 3 of the RFQ (See "Body of the SOQ must include"). The RFP, which will be sent to up to five (5) qualified consultants (or consultant teams), will contain proposal evaluation criteria.*

10. Do you envision that the project manager will be full-time at the site?

RESPONSE:

*No.*

11. Will the PM's role include nontechnical duties such as site security and management of contractors performing O&M activities?

RESPONSE:

*The PM's role is not anticipated to include nontechnical duties such as site security and O&M management.*

12. What is the role of GSI Water Solutions on this project?

RESPONSE:

*Heidi Blischke of GSI Water Solutions, Inc. is the portfolio manager for the Columbus site, with responsibility for project oversight and regulatory communications.*

13. Is it anticipated that existing contractors will continue to provide services at the site? If so, who and what services will they provide?

RESPONSE:

*At this time, the SOQ is for activities as noted under Section 2: Project Needs.*

14. It is apparent that the Kerr-McGee Columbus site involves complex onsite and offsite issues. Please provide any MST short term and long term goals for this site that you can share, or can you direct us to some specific document that includes this information.

RESPONSE:

*Short term and long term goals for the project will be developed during RI/FS planning with the EPA and stakeholder input.*

15. Who does the MST consider as key staff, or is it up to the contractor to identify key staff? We understand the project manager is a key staff member.

RESPONSE:

*It is up to the consultant to identify key staff. However, key staff may, in addition to the PM, consist of technical staff such as risk assessors, creosote experts, chemists, community relations specialists, or environmental engineers.*

16. Has the community been afforded opportunities for meaningful participation in site cleanup? If so have they participated in opportunities provided?

RESPONSE:

*A Community Advisory Group (CAG) was recently established for the project and has regular meetings. The RI/FS process will include CAG participation.*

17. Who will the client be, and what is the relationship of GSI Water Solutions, Inc. to the Greenfield Environmental Multistate Trust?

RESPONSE:

*Work will be contracted directly with Greenfield Environmental Multistate Trust, LLC, Trustee of the Multistate Environmental Response Trust (MST). The attached chart shows the MST organization. Consultants will report directly to GSI Water Solutions, Inc. It is anticipated that the RI/FS consultant will also be involved in milestone and planning meetings with EPA and project stakeholders.*

18. Will GSI Water Solutions, Inc. serve as the program manager for the Greenfield Environmental Multistate Trust cleanup projects?

RESPONSE:

*GSI Water Solutions serves as the portfolio manager for the Columbus site.*

19. Is work expected to be performed on a task order basis or will the selected consultant be charged with handling global aspects of the project?

RESPONSE:

*We expect the selected contractor to be involved in global aspects of the project. However, scopes for the specific tasks have not been determined.*

20. What is the expected length of the contract?

RESPONSE:

*The initial funding is anticipated to cover focused RI/FS activities and targeted interim actions which are expected to be implemented within the next five (5) years. The length of the contract depends upon many factors, including consultant performance.*

21. Will multiple consultants be selected for the Columbus work? {Similar question: Will the MST be choosing one firm with expertise in all elements of Section 2 of the RFQ to perform the project? Or will the approach be to use several firms with particular areas of expertise?}

RESPONSE:

*Up to five (5) qualified consultant (or consultant teams) will be selected to receive the RFP. Only one consultant (or consultant team) will be selected to conduct the work. If your firm has expertise in only one or a few of the required areas of expertise, we encourage your firm to*

*participate on a consulting team. Attached is a list of consultants to whom the RFQ was sent; however, you are not limited by this list in forming teams. The organizational structure and plan of proposed teams (including lines of communication, responsibility, and reporting) must be included in your SOQ.*