

1. Page 70/Sections L-12: The RFP currently has a due date of 17 June. The referenced section of the RFP requires that all questions be provided to the government no later than 14 days prior to the solicitation closing date, which would be today (3 June 2004). Currently, this bidder has several questions submitted to the government that have not been answered. Depending on the answers to those questions, the composition and complexity of the responses to the RFP may change. Given this fact, would the government:

- Allow questions after 3 June 2004, related to government responses to currently unanswered questions?

- Or provide an extension to the RFP submission date to allow time within the 14 day restriction to ask additional questions and re-craft our response based on the government's answer?

- In order to ensure that this solicitation is one in a fair competition, will the government consider extending the RFP submission date to allow time for competitive team reconstitution?

Answer: To allow time for competitive team reconstitution, Amendment 0002 to the RFP, posted on 7 June 2004, extended the proposal due date to 28 June 2004. As a result, the Government will accept questions from potential offerors until 14 June 2004.

Prior Offeror Question:

Page 77/Section L-16.1.6.1(a)(1): The proposed level of effort for both initial task orders "shall exceed \$2,700,000". The period of performance for the initial task orders is only 2 months (per answer to question 17 on question set 3#). This seems contradictory, as the projected level of effort for a full year would then exceed \$16,200,000. Please clarify.

Prior Government Response:

Answer: When awarding an IDIQ contract, the Government must include a clause that states both the minimum and maximum supplies or services to be ordered, hence the inclusion of Clause B-2 CONTRACT MINIMUM—MAXIMUM SUPPLIES AND SERVICES. As a result, \$2,700,000 is the Government's best estimate of the minimum cost and fee of all services to be provided for this effort.

Follow-up Question:

2. Regarding the answer to question 8: The question referred to the level of effort that is dictated on page 77 of the RFP (paragraph L-16.1.6(a)(1). It reads: "... The total combined proposed cost and fee for both tasks shall exceed \$2,700,000." The government answer related to clause B-2 on page 11.

The period of performance for the initial delivery orders is specified as 01 August 2004 to 30 September 2004 on pages 94 and 118 of the RFP. Assume a contractor has an average hourly rate (fully burdened through fee) of \$100, then the level of effort in man-hours for this POP would be 27,000 hours. 27,000 hours in two months is over 80 people. This staffing level seems inconsistent with the level of effort for similar TDLs being performed under the current contract.

So to re-phrase the original question: Does the government intend for the winning contractor to staff the initial task orders so the dictated \$2,700,000 minimum is used in a 2 month period?

Follow-up Answer:

The Government will retain the 2 month period of performance but will reset the schedule. The burn rate of \$2,700,000 is commensurate with current PMWC-161 tasking. The projected schedule is to commence the initial delivery orders on 30 September 2004 with an end date of 30 November 2004. The RFP will be amended accordingly.

3. The nature of the DoN IA contract as a single award to an integrating prime precludes the use of mitigation techniques to avoid potential OCI situations that would impact the prime's role. Can a prime without OCI issues submit a bid to manage the breadth of the DON IA effort and include in that bid one or more subcontractors who have specifically defined/limited work areas to avoid OCIs specific to that subcontractor? Specifically, can a subcontractor be assigned work in support of several MCTs (and accept the H-6, H-7 and H-8 flow down OCI provisions for those areas), while being excluded from work supporting other MCTs or product areas to avoid a potential OCI?

Answer: Yes. A potential prime offeror without OCI issues may submit a proposal and include one or more subcontractors who have specifically defined work parameters so as to avoid possible OCI issues associated with that subcontractor. The subcontractor(s) must accept OCI clauses H-7, H-8, and H-9 of the RFP to avoid any potential conflicts. It is paramount for the Government that the awardee of the DoN IA contract avoid organizational conflicts of all kinds, particularly "impaired objectivity" conflicts.