



PR-13-20

Composite Pole Installation Project

U.S. Virgin Islands

Addendum #1

December 13, 2019

Question 1:

Please further delineate East from West on St Thomas, and West from Central on ST Croix. Is there a map that shows segregation or is this by circuit number?

Answer 1:

The exact delineation is to be determined. Please note that bid schedule is based on an approximate pole count per project and per unit cost.

Question 2:

Does WAPA have pre-established lines of credit in place to fund timely payment to contractors for work performed or will contractor be subject to waiting for funding from federal and local agencies?

Answer 2:

No pre-established lines of credit are in place for this purpose. Payments will be based on net 90 payment terms.

Question 3:

RFP indicates funding will come from multiple sources. Should contractor expect to be paid in full within payment terms or will contractor have to wait for both funding from both sources?

Answer 3:

Contractor will be paid in full.

Question 4:

How many weeks outstanding are payments due to existing contractors currently working on composite poles?

Answer 4:

This information is not relevant to this RFP

Question 5:

Have contractors received payments from HUD under existing contractors currently working on composite pole contract?

Answer 5:

This information is not relevant to this RFP.

Question 6:

Is contractor required to retitle and re-register its equipment in the USVI or can contractors maintain license plates and mainland auto insurance? If required, are fees and highway use tax payments reimbursable?

Answer 6:

All applicable taxes and fees should be included in the bid price. Offeror is expected to contact the respective government agencies to ensure compliance with Virgin Islands laws and regulations.

Question 7:

Is the authority aware of any major projects being conducted in the USVI that will have an impact on availability of housing or hotel accommodations?

Answer 7:

No.

Question 8:

Does the Authority provide flaggers or is the contractor required to provide? Are road closures permitted?

Answer 8:

The Authority will not be providing flaggers for this work scope. Road closures will be coordinated by the Contractor with VIPD on an as needed basis.

Question 9:

Does WAPA have a budget and funding established to pay contractor for federally unreimbursed items such as delays for lack of material, or permits?

Answer 9:

VIWAPA will be responsible for non-reimbursable cost as dictated in RFP document.

Question 10:

Is the contractor required to meet all USVI Government rules and requirements being the work will be lasting longer then 6months?

Answer 10:

Yes.

Question 11:

Has the USVI government indicated when 6% excise tax may be reinstated?

Answer 11:

Please contact the Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue directly on this matter.

Question 12:

Unit 60 Install wood overhead guy pole. Should this unit include installation of pole and pole to pole guy?

Answer 12:

Yes,

Question13:

Unit 62 Replace all types of insulators on existing poles. Please clarify unit of measure of EA. Each insulator or each pole?

Answer 13:

The unit of measure is each insulator.

Question 14:

What has changed in the payment process to allow invoices to be paid in 30 days versus the current process where outstanding invoices run anywhere from 90 to 495 days and counting?

Answer 14:

The project is a federally funded project and invoices must be processed through several evaluation stages before final approval. While the Authority will process invoices as expeditiously as possible, 90 days represents the most resonance estimate in getting invoices approved and paid.

Question 15:

Can you confirm the bid due date is 12-19-19 at 10:00 am AST?

Answer 15:

Yes, bids are due 12-19-19 at 10:00 AM AST as stated in the bidding documents.

Question 16:

Financial Strength Evaluation. Our response to this part of the RFP is hard to determine because of the uncertainty of the collectability of outstanding invoices from WAPA/FEMA. How will WAPA evaluate their own past due invoices?

Answers 16:

Payments will be paid based on net 90 payment terms

Question 17:

1. COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW, REGULATIONS, AND EXECUTIVE ORDERS

This is an acknowledgement that FEMA financial assistance will be used to fund the contract only. The contractor will comply will all applicable federal law, regulations, Executive Orders, FEMA policies, procedures, and directives.

45. NO OBLIGATION BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Federal Government is not a party to this contract and is not subject to any obligations or liabilities to the non-Federal entity, contractor, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract.

Question: In reference to Item 45 of the General Contract Terms-Federal Requirements document: Are FEMA and the Federal government one in the same? Item 44 states FEMA financial assistance will be used to fund the contract, however item 45 states the Federal

Government is not a party to the contract. Ultimately, what FEMA funds are designated for this contract and what guarantees are there that the contract will be fully funded?

Answers 17:

Yes, in the context of this question, FEMA and the Federal Government is the same. This project is an approved Hazard Mitigation Project.

Question18:

The RFP has a few sections that address surety bonds which appear to conflict; what surety bonds (Performance and/or Payment) and for what value (100% or \$10 mill) will be required of awarded Contractor(s)?

Answers 18:

Performance and payment bonds are required at contract execution for 100% of the contract price. Performance and payment bond commitment letters for 100% of the contract price are required upon submission of the proposal response.

Question 19:

Will the VIWAPA award the 5 projects within this RFP separately or all to 1 contractor?

Answer 19:

Projects may be awarded separately.

Question 20:

We have learned that it is highly unlikely and/or extremely cost prohibitive to obtain some of the insurance required by the RFP. Would the VIWAPA consider removing Section C. 2. from Exhibit A?

Answer 20:

The insurance requirements for Section C.2 is required for this project.

Question 21:

Can VIWAPA define “acceptance” of the project?

Answer 21:

“Acceptance of Work” refers to a process where invoiced work is verified to have been completed in a satisfactory manner.

Question 22:

Can the due date be extend?

Answer 22:

No. Unfortunately, due to the overall timelines and objectives we are unable to extend the deadline.

Question 23:

May bidders get a copy of the sign in sheet for the pre bid meeting?

Answer 23:

See attached.