

## ADDENDUM THREE

Date: September 27, 2011

To: All Bidders

From: Steve Gaul, Buyer  
Nebraska Department of Natural Resources

RE: Questions and Answers for Request for Proposal Number 3750Z1  
to be opened October 14, 2011 at 2:00 pm Central Time.

Following are the questions submitted and answers provided for the above mentioned Request for Proposal. The questions and answers are to be considered as part of the Request for Proposal.

Questions	Answers
1. Is the DNR committed to using CropSim as the basis for producing recharge and pumpage inputs to the groundwater model?	NDNR is committed to using CropSim as the basis for producing recharge and pumpage inputs to the groundwater model. NDNR is developing these files for the consultant to use.
2. What is the process or protocol if the CropSim-derived inputs result in highly, erroneous, skewed, or biased calibration results when all other model parameters are considered reasonable? i.e. is there a QA/QC process independent of the engineering group producing the CropSim data?	In the event that the contractor believes CropSim results to be unreasonable, or otherwise flawed, NDNR will review recommendations from the consultant and decide on the best way to proceed. CropSim results will be reviewed by DNR for reasonableness.
3. Would an alternative soil moisture balance model or other methodology be accepted that produces pumpage and recharge values? Such as the MODFLOW Farm-Process Package?	No. If CropSim results are demonstrated to be fatally flawed, another methodology may be considered.
4. What are the expectations pertaining to the fourth paragraph on page 24 of the RFP where the contractor is expected to evaluate additional datasets in the basin. It is of the opinion at [Contractor] that any one of these tasks could require an appreciable amount of time and resources depending on the level of detail desired for inputs to the model.	These datasets should be evaluated in the context of their usefulness in performing annual evaluations of the new methodology for determining basin status.

Questions	Answers
<p>5. Somewhat related to the previous question, is there flexibility in the schedule to allow additional time meet the project goals? We at [Contractor] feel that any one of the tasks in the RFP could each be a 6-10 month process. The original Platte River Cooperative Hydrology Study took nearly seven years to complete. Granted the area of the Blue Basin is much smaller than the COHYST area, but more often than not even the best engineers and scientists who've been involved in large-scale models like the one in this proposal encounter obstacles and delays for various reasons.</p>	<p>The Contractor should expect to meet the schedule. The proposal should include necessary components to meet the purpose of performing annual evaluations of the new methodology for determining basin status.</p>
<p>6. What will be the protocol in the review process of this model? Will DNR modelers or independent contractors evaluate and approve of the model construction process and calibration results of the model? What metrics will the DNR use to consider the model sound and defensible for the intended applications in the Blue River Basin?</p>	<p>NDNR modelers in coordination with the selected consultant will establish appropriate calibration metrics to evaluate and approve the model construction process and calibration results.</p>
<p>7. Page 30 of the RFP, first paragraph under Cost Proposal Requirements, states, "The bidder must submit the Cost Proposal in a section of the proposal that is a separate section or is packaged separately as specified in the RFP from the Technical Proposal section."</p> <p>We are interpreting this statement to mean that the cost proposal is not required to be in a separate, sealed container. Is this accurate? Also, do you need 1 original and 5 copies of the Cost Proposal or is 1 original of the Cost Proposal sufficient?</p>	<p>The cost proposal must be a separate section from the technical response section, but may be either part of the same document or in a separate envelope included with the technical proposal. As a section of the proposal, the requirement for 1 original and 5 copies would apply to the cost proposal section also.</p>