

December 13, 2022

To: Materiel Division Administrator
as.materielpurchasing@nebraska.gov
Administrative Services
1526 K Street, Suite 130
Lincoln, NE 68508

Reference Bid Number : RFP Number 6720 Z1

Provaliant Business Solutions, LLC submitted a response to the RFP Number 6720 Z1 on October 19, 2022. On December 2, 2022, the State of Nebraska released the intent to award the above-referenced Request for Proposal for OSERS Transfer Project to Linea Solutions, Inc ("Linea"). The Provaliant Business Solutions, LLC proposal was deemed non-responsive.

We are respectfully filing this grievance to raise following issues and to request clarifications from the State:

1. Please explain why the Provaliant Business Solutions proposal was deemed "non-responsive." We submitted an alternate proposal and provided cost for a specific portion of the project as mentioned in Section "I.X. ALTERNATIVE/EQUIVALENT PROPOSALS" and Section "I.Y. LUMP SUM OR 'ALL OR NONE' PROPOSALS" of Section "I. PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE".
2. Is NPERS aware that there are material inaccuracies in the Linea proposal, especially with respect to the qualifications of Linea and NeuOrbis? The lack of Linea and NeuOrbis qualifications presents risks to NPERS that would likely result in the OSERS transfer statutory mandate not being met:
 - a. Linea claims under "VI.A.3.j. MANDATORY EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS", which states "...the Contractor must have experience in IT programming, development, and data migration for at least three (3) public pension systems."
 - i. Linea just lists all their Oversight/PM clients. None of their projects are similar to the NPERS OSERS transfer project scope of work to provide "...IT programming, development, and data migration".
 - b. Linea's response to "VI.A.3.k. SUMMARY OF BIDDER'S CORPORATE EXPERIENCE" which states "...the bidder should provide references for three (3) projects completed with the last seven (7) years that showcase the bidder's experience defining, developing, and deploying a solution/project similar to OSERS":
 - i. At one Linea reference, Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System, Linea was only providing oversight services, not providing "...IT programming, development, and data migration" work similar to those needed for the OSERS transfer project as requested by NPERS;
 - ii. Another Linea reference was New Mexico PERA. Linea stated that the contract size was \$4,200,000 and the Prime Contractor was NeuOrbis. Both the contract entity and size are incorrectly stated. NeuOrbis was not prime for the that contract in that amount. Likewise, it was not a Linea contract. In fact ,as Linea

stated in their proposal NeuOrbis was not even in business until earlier this year (<https://www.bizapedia.com/tx/neuorbis-consulting-llc.html>); and

- iii. The last reference was City of Milwaukee, and this is neither a Linea client or NeuOrbis client. Again, NeuOrbis was not in business until April 25, 2022.
3. Linea, through a subcontract with NeuOrbis, would use offshore development resources. Is that acceptable to NPERS? And does NPERS agree with the Security and Privacy Controls necessary for offshore development, as they were not explained by the selected vendor?

Provaliant Business Solutions' bid is intended to reduce risks for NPERS, following an alternative approach. We proposed:

1. Top jClarety experts who have done "...IT programming, development, and data migration" as Provaliant Business Solutions and also many other projects in the past;
2. An Incremental approach to requirements and subsequent deliverables to produce a MVP (Minimum Viable Product) to determine what can be done to meet the OSERS mandate date; and
3. No offshore work.

We look forward to receiving clarifications for the above-mentioned item from the State. Our intentions are to minimize risks for the implementation of OSERS Transfer Project for NPERS and will support NPERS with the decision-making process which provide best value to NPERS.

Sincerely,



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