

ADDENDUM ONE QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

Date: June 20, 2024

To: All Bidders

From: Connie Heinrichs / Kelly Rowlands, Procurement Contracts Officers
AS Materiel State Purchasing Bureau (SPB)

RE: Addendum for Request for Proposal Number 6897 Z1 to be opened July 8, 2024 at 2:00 P.M. Central Time

Questions and Answers

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. It is the Bidder's responsibility to check the State Purchasing Bureau website for all addenda or amendments.

Question Number	RFP Section Reference	RFP Page Number	Question	State Response
1.			What is NDEE's budget for this project? What is the amount of your SWIFR Grant?	Project Budget: \$443,672 Grant: \$612,441
2.			Does NDEE prefer that the sorting events occur at multiple sites simultaneously?	Sorting events do NOT need to be performed simultaneously at multiple sites but could at the SWIFR grant contractors discretion/capacity.
3.			The 2009 Waste Characterization Study recommended a two-season waste characterization study rather than a four-season study. Is NDEE open to two seasons of field work instead of four?	Due to the length of time since the last study, this study is planned to be four seasons.
4.			Has NDEE contacted the landfills / sites where the studies will take place and gained confirmation of their willingness to participate? If not, is NDEE expecting proposers to contact sites to elicit participation?	To date, NDEE has NOT contacted the landfills. NDEE envisions a collaborative effort between NDEE and the SWIFR grant contractor.
5.			Does NDEE expect that the selected proposer will use the same material list from the previous study?	Much of the intent of this study is to follow-up on the previous study and make an apples-to-apples comparison. A considerable amount of time has passed since that study and the waste stream may have changed.

6.			Is it necessary to both visually characterize and hand-sort samples from each load?	No, not if the characterization process quantifies the materials accurately. The visual inspection process should note/categorize and quantify other wastes such as appliances, bedding, etc. that isn't part of the process.
7.			Please clarify minimum metrics in Section V.F "Outputs & Outcomes." Is additional research beyond the Waste Characterization Study expected from selected consultant?	Yes. This study should also include an estimate of materials following other waste management pathways to the extent possible and support the analysis of and recommendations for all of Nebraska's waste streams.
8.	NA	NA	What is the budget for this project?	See response to question 1.
9.	V.A	28	Does the State have access to electronic files and raw data (i.e., Excel and/or Word) from the 2009 study?	The data is not available so the comparison will need to be performed using compiled information from the 2009 report.
10.	V.A	28	Have the eight municipal landfills been selected for participation in this project? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If so, which facilities have been selected? • If not, who will be responsible for helping to select the facilities and when would this selection be completed? 	No. NDEE's goal is to utilize the same eight sites sampled for the 2009 study. To date, NDEE has NOT contacted the landfills. NDEE envisions a collaborative effort between NDEE and the SWIFR grant contractor and agreements in place prior to completion of Task 3.
11.	V.A	28	The 2009 Study sorted materials at two transfer stations as part of the total eight participating facilities. Will this project seek to sort at transfer stations, sort materials received from transfer stations, or exclude sorting transfer station materials?	Section V.C. Project Requirements, Task 2: Review Previous Waste Sort Methodology. This project seeks comparability between the 2009 study and this study. NDEE believes that using the same sites, if possible, is a reasonable way to accomplish this. NDEE anticipates studying the two transfer stations utilized in the 2009 would better characterize the waste streams in Nebraska in a comparable manner.

12.	V.A	28	What resources will the host facilities be responsible for providing (i.e., loader and operator, access to restrooms, sorting area, customer scale data, site contact information, etc.) in order to accommodate sort activities?	The SWIFR grant contractor will be responsible for coordinating those details with each site.
13.	V.C	28	Task 4 states sorting will include "...counts of deposit and non-deposit PET, glass and metal beverage containers..." Is this activity to be part of this project?	These categories/components were broken down in the 2009 study and it is expected that they will be for this study as well.
14.	V.D	29	Items 3, 4, and 5 identified in the Scope of Work section are not listed in the Tasks previously identified in section V.C. Are these items part of this project? If so, what Task (listed in section V.C) should these be associated?	Yes, these activities are part of the project but not delineated under the tasking. They are associated with Final Report Task 7.
15.	V.F	30	<p>The Outputs and Outcomes section lists three metrics that are "required to be reported from this study." Are the activities associated with evaluating these items and then reporting the outcomes part of this project?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If so, who will be responsible for obtaining the necessary information on MSW and C&D collected, recycled, composted, or other management pathways, and to what Task (listed in section V.C) should these be associated? 	<p>Based on NDEE's grant agreement with EPA, these outputs are included in NDEE's work plan and are based on EPA's SWIFR guidance document, May 23, 2023. They are part of the SWIFR grant contractor's responsibilities.</p> <p>These activities are associated with Task 7.</p>
16.	VI.A.1.i	33	The RFP states that "at least three (3) references (name, address, and telephone number) who can attest to the competence and skill level of the individual." Is this intended to be for each key project team member or for the responding company to demonstrate their ability to perform the work?	Each key individual proposed to work on this project should provide their resume which includes three or more references.
17.	I.D	4	This section notes that bidders are to present as questions all possible assumptions a bidder might use in their proposal. Please clarify this. Are bidders expected to submit all possible assumptions as questions prior to the close of the question period on 6/10? We won't know	If assumptions are to help with your proposal, questions should have been submitted by 6/10/2024.

			what assumptions to build our proposal on until we receive responses to the questions submitted on 6/10.	
18.	V.A	28	<p>To replicate the 2009 study, please confirm that the state would like the proposers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • characterize 624 samples of MSW • at 8 facilities • Each facility will be visited in each of four seasons. • The total number of field days required to meet the 624 sample target will be dependent on the field team's daily productivity. • All MSW samples will be hand sorted. <p>Only route collection trucks will be sampled. Individuals hauling their own waste ("public customers" or "self-haul customers") will not be sampled.</p>	As indicated in Task 2, NDEE would like this study to have comparability to the 2009 study. NDEE would like the same eight sites sampled for this study to aid with this. Specific sample counts and days of sampling are up to the contractor to propose.
19.	V.C	28	The description of Task 3 in this table notes: "Contractor shall develop ...including a visual C&D load sampling plan..." The 2009 study did not explicitly characterize C&D samples. Please indicate if this C&D characterization is in addition to the 624 planned hand sorts or these will replace some of the 624 planned hand sorts.	The 2009 study did include C&D in its visual inspection and should be included in this study. Specific sample counts and days of sampling are up to the contractor to propose.
20.	V.C	29	The description of Task 7 in this table notes that results are to be reported by weight. The 2009 study put quite a bit of effort into measuring volumes. Does NDEE want proposers to measure the volume of material types in each sample?	<p>Task 6 did say weight but please <u>include BOTH weight and volume</u> in a similar manner to the 2009 study which had comparisons for both.</p> <p>The following is hereby amended: Section V. C. Project Requirements, Task 6: Data Analysis, Description: Sort data will be analyzed to determine the estimated weight and volume and mean percent associated with each material sorted.</p>
21.	V.C	29	The description of Task 7 in this table notes that results are to be compared against 2009. To	See response to question 9.

			accurately do this will require the entire 2009 raw dataset (not compiled results) in an Excel format. Does the state have a copy of the 2009 study raw data?	
22.	V.D	29	Bullet 3 in this section notes: “quantify the impacts of existing recycling programs” Existing recycling programs, changes in consumer behaviors, and changes in products and packages in the marketplace all influence the impact quantity and composition of recycled materials. Separating out the impacts of the programs from other influences is a considerable undertaking. Please indicate what information the state has about existing recycling programs, what information they expect the contractor to collect, and the expected outcome for this bullet.	NDEE expects the contractor to gather this information through available resources organizations, and publications. NDEE also has limited information regarding metrics reported for NDEE funded recycling programs that could be available to the contractor. This study should include an estimate of materials following other waste management pathways to the largest extent possible to support the analysis of and recommendations for all of Nebraska’s waste streams as part of Task 7.
23.	V.E	29	Please indicate where the table in this section fits into the proposal. It’s not listed as a requirement in section VI.A.1 or VI.A.2.	Per Section V, “the bidder should provide the following information in response to this Request for Proposal” - Section V.E. Technical Requirements is required in addition to Section VI.A.1. and the Cost Proposal.
24.	V.F	30	The first bullet asks for detail on the tons of MSW/C&D collected, recycled, composted, or managed via other management pathways in the state. The RFP appears to request a characterization of only the disposed waste which will not result in any information regarding the recycling, composting, or other management pathways. Does the scope of work include quantifying the waste streams listed in this bullet?	Based on NDEE’s grant agreement with EPA, these waste stream output estimates are included in NDEE’s work plan and are based on EPA’s SWIFR guidance document, May 23, 2023, and are part of the SWIFR grant contractor’s responsibilities. These activities are associated with Task 7.
25.	V.F	30	The second bullet asks for detail on the tons of MSW/C&D generated per material type and source in the state as a result of the grant (e.g., plastic and food waste). Please clarify what is expected here. This grant will not result in the generation of any material. Are evaluating the results of a different grant?	This study is intended to follow-up on the previous 2009 study and make an apples-to-apples comparison and includes visually inspecting, quantifying, hand sorting, and weighing waste streams at the participating eight sites (characterizing). Waste is not generated through this grant.

26.	V.F	30	The third bullet asks for detail on the GHGs reduced (in MTCO ₂ e) from collection, recycling, composting, or management via other management pathways in the state. Please clarify if this analysis is desired. Does the state have information regarding the quantity of material handled via recycling, composting, or other management pathways?	NDEE expects the contractor to gather this information through available resources, organizations, and publications. This study should include an estimate of materials following other waste management pathways to the greatest extent possible to support the analysis of and recommendations for all of Nebraska's waste streams as part of Task 7.
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This addendum will become part of the Request for Proposal and should be acknowledged with the Request for Proposal response.