

TEXAS COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

**Request for Proposals for
Professional Engineering Services for the Schools and Local Government Program
(RFP# 207b)**

OFFICIAL RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM POTENTIAL PROPOSERS

(May 2, 2014)

1. Is there a preliminary budget for the above project (207b)?

RESPONSE: Comptroller is not disclosing budget information at this time.

2. Can you clarify the amount of potential residential work and will that include single family homes or primarily multi-family properties?

RESPONSE: No residential single family or multi-family properties are within the scope of this RFP.

3. Will you allow any changes to the terms and conditions, particularly the indemnification language?

RESPONSE: Please refer to Part IV, Section 4.2.A (Transmittal Letter) of the RFP, which provides in part:

“If a Respondent takes exception to any of the proposed terms and conditions stated in the Sample Contract or this RFP, then the exception(s) must be specifically and clearly identified in the transmittal letter and an explanation of the requested change along with the proposed alternative language must also be included in the transmittal letter. However, failure to accept those terms and conditions may result in disqualification of the proposal.”

4. Do you intend to award this contract to one bidder or multiple bidders?

RESPONSE: Comptroller may select one or more qualified Respondents as set forth in Part III, Section 3.2 (Comptroller Rights) of the RFP.

5. Can you confirm that there is a 23.6% requirement for Hubzone?

RESPONSE: As set forth in 34 Texas Administrative Code §20.13, 23.6% is the statewide HUB goal for professional services. Please note that while Respondent is not required to subcontract any work under a contract awarded under this RFP, all Respondents must complete and submit a HUB Subcontracting Plan (HSP) in accordance with Part IV, Section 4.2.L (Historically Underutilized Businesses Subcontracting Plan) of the RFP. Please refer to Exhibit C of the RFP for instructions on how to complete the HSP.

6. How many firms will be selected for this contract?

RESPONSE: Please see response to Question 4.

7. How will awards for energy assessments, training, etc. be made after the firm or firms are selected?

RESPONSE: After the contracts are executed, the SECO program manager will determine assignments based on the selected contractor(s) expertise, geographic representation and staff capabilities. The assignments are typically requested by ISD's or Local Governments in the form of a Service Agreement completed by the requestor and submitted to the SECO program manager. The SECO program manager then reviews and forwards the assignment to a contractor, who then contacts the entity to discuss the

requested services which will be either a Preliminary Energy Assessment or energy-engineering related Technical Assistance. Once the contractor determines what is needed to accomplish the assignment for the requestor, the contractor submits a form requesting to perform these services to SECO for approval, which includes an estimated budget to complete the services. Upon approval, the contractor then performs the services for the requestor and then submits a report to SECO which summarizes the activities and recommendations for the project.

- 8. What approximate amount of funding will be available during the contract period for the energy audits, analysis, training, implementation projects, etc.?**

RESPONSE: Please see response to Question 1.

- 9. Can colleges and universities use this program?**

RESPONSE: The scope of this RFP primarily targets publically-owned local government and Independent School District facilities and infrastructure.

- 10. Which firm(s) were selected for the previous contract cycle?**

RESPONSE: The firms selected under the previous RFP were Jacobs Engineering, Energy Systems Associates, Texas Energy Engineering Services, Inc., and Estes, McClure.