

BID INFORMATION MEMORANDUM
Fixed Price Competitive Bid Solicitation

East Penn Tire & Battery, Inc.
East Penn Tire and Battery
4094 Chestnut Street
Emmaus, PA 18049
PADEP FACILITY ID #39-27735
PAUSTIF CLAIM #20180151(I)

July 9, 2021

The Pennsylvania Underground Storage Tank Indemnification Fund (PAUSTIF) understands and appreciates the effort necessary to prepare a well-conceived response to a bid solicitation. As a courtesy, the following summary information is being provided to the bidders.

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| Number of firms attending pre-bid meeting: | 12 |
| Number of bids received: | 8 |
| List of firms submitting bids: | 212 Environmental Consulting, LLC Alpha Geoscience Coventry Environmental Associates, Inc. Environmental Alliance, Inc. LaBella Associates, P.C. Liberty Environmental, Inc. MEA, Inc. Mountain Research, LLC |

This was a Fixed Scope of Work Request for Bid and cost was the most heavily weighted evaluation criteria. The range in cost between the bids was \$144,229.14 to \$349,945.45. Based on the numerical scoring, one of the eight bids was determined to meet the "Reasonable and Necessary" criteria established by the Regulations and deemed acceptable by the evaluation committee for PAUSTIF funding. The claimant had the option to select any of the consulting firms that had a technical score that allowed the bid to advance to cost scoring to complete the scope of work defined in the RFB; however, PAUSTIF will only provide funding up to the fixed-price cost of the highest bid deemed acceptable by the bid review committee. In this case the claimant elected to follow the committee's recommendation and selected the bid deemed acceptable for funding.

The bidder selected by the claimant was Mountain Research, LLC - \$144,229.14

The attached sheet lists some general comments regarding the evaluation of the bids that were received for this solicitation. These comments are intended to provide information regarding the bids that were received for this solicitation and to assist you in preparing bids for future solicitations.

GENERAL COMMENTS REGARDING EVALUATED BIDS

- Bid responses should include enough “original” language and thought that the knowledge and approach of the firm can be evaluated. The reason is that the bidders are not prequalified and the evaluation committee must evaluate the technical aspects of the bid and bidder. Specifically, bidders should not just copy and paste the language in the RFB and provide a cost or not just state that the task will be completed for a certain cost. An explanation should be provided as to how the task will be completed and all pertinent detail should be included.
- Bid responses and costs should include all requested activities required to complete the Scope of Work included in the RFB. Specifically, if the RFB instructions direct that bid responses should include the costs to complete communications, updates, and meetings; then the consultant should include those costs in their fixed price bid. Consultants should not put assumptions in their bid that indicate that they will bill certain management tasks separately when the RFB indicates they should be included.
- Bids need to clearly and unambiguously accept the Remediation Agreement provided in the RFB as well as include any requested changes to the aforementioned contract. As noted, the Remediation Agreement provided in the RFB will be the base for the contract to be signed for this project, not a consultant’s internal proposal or contract. This includes any consultant’s internal proposal or contract with terms and conditions contrasting that of the Remediation Agreement.
- Please bid the scope of work as provided in the RFB unless otherwise directed. Consultants are welcome to propose or suggest a change in the SOW; however, the consultant should bid the SOW as presented in the RFB and provide any suggested modification to the SOW and cost difference (+ or -) separately in the proposal.
- The RFB requested a total fixed-price bid to complete a specific scope of work. Bids should not include an assumption or a reference to a level of effort and/or hours. Costs provided in your bid should be developed using your professional opinion, experience, and the data provided.
- Provide a clear description of how the proposed work scope will be completed. The bid package should specifically discuss all tasks and subtasks that will be included under the fixed price contract, what specific activities are included in each task, and how the tasks will specifically be completed (i.e. explain your groundwater sampling method, which guidance documents will be prepared, how waste will be disposed, what will be completed as part of the SRS, etc.).
- Please include all requested information (insurance, qualification questions, cost spreadsheet, schedule, labor rates, etc.) in the bid submittal.
- Bids should include costs to dispose of all anticipated volumes of waste related to the tasks included in the SOW. The volume of waste should be estimated using your professional opinion, experience, and available information. If your bid proposes to dispose of waste under a permit, then your bid needs to address the potential situation of a permit not being approved. Bids need to specifically indicate that your bid costs include the costs to dispose of the waste even if a permit is not approved. As indicated in the bid, there should be no assumptions on waste and

assuming that a permit will be approved is still making an assumption on waste. Bids should also clearly detail how all waste will be handled.

- Bids should appropriately discuss and provide costs for the cost adders included in the RFB.
- Bidders should follow the specific instructions provided in the RFB and include the correct number of events based on their proposed schedule. Specifically, if the RFB requests costs to complete events every two weeks from the time of contract execution through the completion of a specific report based on the schedule provided from the bidder, then the expectation is that the bidder will include enough events on their schedule and in their costs.
- Bidders should review their RFB responses prior to submittal. Care should be taken to ensure that bidder's responses are complete and all necessary information is displayed.