

BID INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

Fixed-Price Competitive Bid Solicitation

Vennard's Crossroads Convenience, Inc.
4985 Lucerne Road
White Township, Indiana County, PA 15701

PADEP Facility ID #32-81802 PAUSTIF Claim #2015-0116(I)

The 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.

Number of firms attending pre-bid meeting: 6
Number of bids received: 3
List of firms submitting bids: Cribbs & Associates, Inc.
Mountain Research, LLC
P. Joseph Lehman, Inc.

This was a Bid to Result with technical approach being the most heavily weighted evaluation criteria. The range in cost between the three evaluated bids was \$756,403.00 to \$907,352.91. Based on the numerical scoring, 1 of the 3 bids was determined to meet the "Reasonable and Necessary" criteria established by the Regulations and was deemed acceptable by the evaluation committee for PAUSTIF funding. The Claimant has the option to select any of the consulting firms who properly submitted a bid 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.

The bidder selected by the Claimant was Cribbs & Associates, Inc.: Bid Price – \$809,998.00.

Note that the costs referenced above reflect adjusted base bid costs and account for the assumed volume of contaminated soil and water transport and disposal and imported clean fill as defined in the Request for Bid and on the Bid Cost Spreadsheet. These costs were used for bid scoring purposes.

Below are 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 received for this solicitation and to assist you in preparing bids for future solicitations.

GENERAL COMMENTS REGARDING EVALUATED BIDS

- It is imperative that bidders thoroughly review the site background information provided in the Request for Bid (RFB) and in the RFB attachments. For the Vennard's bid solicitation, some questionable supplemental site characterization activities were proposed that seem to be related to an insufficient understanding of site conditions including, for example: i) analyzing soil samples for unnecessary hazardous waste characterization parameters; and ii) advancing soil borings at locations not vital for refining the assumed soil excavation footprint.
- Providing a scope of work and fixed-price cost for each milestone specified in a RFB package is mandatory. Bidders shall also ensure that all RFB-specified requirements within each milestone are addressed. At least one of the bid responses received for the Vennard's bid solicitation did not address all of the RFB milestones. Also, each of the three bid responses failed to address some of the individual milestone requirements requested in the RFB. Bids that fail to address all RFB milestones or milestone requirements will be viewed as unresponsive which will affect the overall bid score.
- It is essential that bids acknowledge and provide descriptions for all optional cost adder milestones in the bid narrative given that some of the optional milestones require bidder input (e.g., specifying the trigger(s) that would be used for determining when LGAC or VGAC needs to be replaced or identifying the vapor-phase contaminant mass recovery rate threshold / criterion for switching from catalytic oxidizer to VGAC treatment).
- Bid responses should provide all information necessary to conduct a thorough technical review of the proposed remedial approach. For example, some of the bid responses failed to provide figures depicting the proposed recovery well details, the trenching & piping layout, trench cross sections, a remedial system process flow diagram, etc., that are expected to be included in response to an RFB prescribing active remediation.
- When developing a remedial pilot testing program, careful consideration must be given to defining the critical pilot testing criteria based on available site data given that these criteria will define whether a proposed remedial approach may or may not be viable. Reasonable estimates of the pilot testing critical criteria will reduce the chances for potentially invoking the "Pilot Test Off-Ramp" conditions which, in part, could result in pre-mature termination of the Remediation Agreement. Some of the bid responses specified critical criteria that were not consistent with the existing site data including, for example: i) a total suspended solids (TSS) concentration of <200 mg/L which is significantly less than the site TSS value cited in the RFB of 441 mg/L; and ii) a hydraulic conductivity value of at least 0.20 ft / day which is significantly higher than the value of 0.028 ft / day for overburden specified in the SCR.