

December 6, 2006

NOTICE TO ALL OFFERORS

REFERENCE: AMENDMENT NO. 1
DOL071RP20097

Additional information has been requested by prospective offerors and it has been determined by the Contracting Officer that this information is made available to all bidders. The closing date and time for the receipt of proposals remain December 20, 2006, 2:00 p.m. local time.

Chari A. Magruder
Contracting Officer

Attachment(s)

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT

BPA NO.

1. CONTRACT ID CODE

PAGE

OF PAGES

1

7

2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO.
0001

3. EFFECTIVE DATE

4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.

5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)

6. ISSUED BY

CODE

ETA

7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6)

CODE

U.S. Department of Labor, ETA/OGCM
Division of Contract Services
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Room N-4655
Washington DC 20210

8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP Code)

To all Offerors/Bidders

(X)

9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO.

DOL071RP20097

X

9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11)

10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.

10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)

CODE

FACILITY CODE

11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers is extended, is not extended.

Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:

(a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning 0 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

(X) A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.

B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).

C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:

D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor is not, is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

(See Attachment)

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)

16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print)

CHARI A. MAGRUDER
Contracting Officer

15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR

15C. DATE SIGNED

16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

16C. DATE SIGNED

(Signature of person authorized to sign)

BY _____
(Signature of Contracting Officer)

14. **RESPONSES TO TECHNICAL QUESTIONS**

1. For each of the contract years what were the total number of interviews and total contact amounts? (Beginning in 2001)

a.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Target N (interviews)</u>	<u>Contract Costs*</u>
2001	3,405	\$1,476,559
2002	3,453	\$2,056,521
2003	3,711	\$2,078,843
2004	3,212	\$1,586,037
2005	2,412	\$1,431,461
2006	1,618	\$1,563,869

*The contract cost for each fiscal year is the sum of invoices paid for all work, including the work associated with interviewing farm workers.

2. Was the 2001 contract a Total Small Business Set-Aside? Were any of the option year contracts (2002 – 2005) Total Small Business Set-Asides?
- a. Yes.
3. Is Aguirre International, Inc. eligible to bid on this solicitation, given the small business set-aside requirement and JBS's acquisition of Aguirre?
- a. Aguirre International, Inc. is no longer a Small Business and therefore is not eligible to submit a proposal as a small business.
4. On page L-2 of the RFP the following sentence occurs: Offerors that are newly formed entities without prior contracts should list contracts and subcontracts as required above for all key personnel. Doesn't this sentence mean that if key personnel who worked for Aguirre form a new company they could use their work experience from Aguirre to satisfy experience requirements stated in the RFP? Have key personnel from Aguirre formed a new company?
- a. Past performance information from key personnel who formed a new company will be accepted.
- b. Also, as stated in Section M.3 (D), offerors without relevant past performance history or for whom information past performance is not available may not be evaluated favorable or unfavorably on past performance. In this instance the offeror would receive a neutral score.
- c. The Government doesn't know if the key personnel from Aguirre have formed a new company.
5. In the Past Performance section on Page L-2, do you require submission of a total of five (5) past performance references collectively (a total for all entities included in the proposal (or individually (5 for the prime contractor, 5 for each subcontractor, etc.)? If it is a collective requirement, is there a specific breakout that we have to follow, i.e., at least 2 references from the offeror or at most 2 references from the major subcontractors?
- a. Prime contractors are to submit five relevant contracts completed during the past three years. Their subcontractors are also to submit five relevant contracts completed during the past three years. Please make sure the information is correct and up to date on the past performance reference sheet. Failure of offerors to provide the correct information on the past performance reference sheets will hinder the Government's ability to allocate points for past performance.

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6. On Page L-2, the solicitation states that “all proposed personnel who handle the employer sampling frame data...must be 1) direct-hire employees of the contractor.” Could you clarify the definition of direct-hire employees in this solicitation? If our major subcontractor is a security cleared, non-profit organization, may the employees of this subcontractor be considered “direct-hire employees?”
 - a. Direct-hire is defined as a person not currently employed with the offeror but who has executed a binding letter for commitment for employment with the offeror, if the offeror receives award under this solicitation The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) requires all handlers of the BLS-provided confidential employer sampling frame data to be direct-hire employees (not consultants) of the contractor because there are no provisions in the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (CIPSEA) that give BLS authoritative reach over consultants and/or subcontractors.
7. Are the degree requirements outlined for the key personnel strict or is there flexibility in the field of study for the graduate degree.
 - a. The degree requirements for the Database Manager and Lead Interviewers are flexible. The degree requirement for the Project Manager is a Ph.D. in either Agricultural Economics or Economics. For the Manager of Training and Field Supervision, the requirement is masters or doctorate in Anthropology or another social science that includes survey and interview methods.
8. Is the Privacy Act incorporated into the proposed contract? If so, what restriction(s) does that place on the handling of questionnaires and survey data?
 - a. Please see Section H.27 of the RFP.
9. Where is the place of performance? Will it be at the Contractor’s facility or at DOL?
 - a. The place of performance will be the Contractor’s facility.
10. What is the program office?
 - a. This solicitation is being administered through the Office of Policy Development and Research.
11. Who is the program manager for this procurement?
 - a. This information is not available to offerors.
12. Person or entity currently performing the contract/project.
 - a. The services are currently being performed by Aguirre International, Inc.
13. Old contract or an outline of the main differences between old statement of work and the current one.
 - a. To request a copy of the current contract, offerors should submit a Freedom of Information Act request to Lorraine Saunders, at the U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Room N-4655.
 - b. An outline of the differences between the old and current statements of work is not available.
14. Old award/contract information – amount and/or price, if available.
 - a. Pursuant to Section B of the RFP, the Government awarded a contract to Aguirre International, Inc. on June 29, 2001 in the amount of \$459,305. The total amount awarded under the contract inclusive of options was \$9,247,355.
15. Old contract award and solicitation number.
 - a. The contract award was \$459,305. The solicitation number was RFP L/A 01-02.
16. Which part(s) of this bid can be e-mailed and or faxed to help with reduction of waste and help the environment?

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a. Offerors must follow the instructions in Section L.7, Proposal Submission of the RFP.

17. I am seeking past performance of your incumbent contractor? Did they meet their goals? Did the quality of surveys meet DOL standards?

a. This information is not available to offerors.

18. Can you describe the types of options that were provided by the contractor?

a. This information is not available to offerors.