

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS (Q&A)
W917PM-09-R-0008

**Facilities of Higher Education Kunduz, Baghlan, Badakshan and Takhar, Afghanistan
(Questions & Answers provided for informational purposes only)**

If any Government responses indicate a change to the technical proposal, it is not official until
and amendment is issued)

4 December 2008

Questions-Q

Answers-A

Q1: In reference to section 3.1 UXO Clearance, what is the Government's definition of the entire site?

A1: The site is considered to be the proposed building footprint and the area for the new well and septic tank and leech field as well as any areas associated with the generator and fuel tanks if that option is exercised.

Q2: Would the Government consider a water tower in lieu of the bladder type hydropneumatic tanks specified?

A2: For bidding purposes, the bidder shall bid on a hydro-pneumatic tank. AED has procedures in place for value engineering proposals once contracts are let.

Q3: Would the Government consider an ultraviolet treatment process instead of the chlorination process specified?

A3: For bidding purposes, the bidder shall bid on a chlorination process. AED has procedures in place for value engineering proposals once contracts are let.

Q4: Does the Government have a preference for the type of fuel used for the back up generators? (gasoline, diesel, propane, etc)

A4: Diesel fuel is required. The 01015 section references UFC 3-540-04N Design: Diesel Electric Generating Plants, 16 Jan 2004.

Q5: Would the Government consider solar/wind or other green types of back up power?

A5: For bidding purposes, the bidder shall bid on a diesel generation plant. AED has procedures in place for value engineering proposals once contracts are let.

Q6: Do any of the sites require a new electrical substation?

A7: A new power grid substation is outside the scope of work. From the 01015, "Generator shall be provided for on site power when power from a local grid is unavailable or is unreliable for providing power 24 hours a day." The power generation option may be exercised within 120 days after contract award.

Q8: Are any photos of the sites available? Either snapshots or aerial?

A8: No. Bidders are encouraged to visit and assess each site.

Q9: Are the GPS coordinates available for these sites?

A9:

Badakhshan

37.10347

70.52834

Baghlan

36.03471

68.67.524

Kunduz

36.71118

68.86447

Takhar

36.74081

69.48763

Balkh

36.722567

67.109283

Faryab

35.909117

64.78815

Jawzjan

36.672567

65.7418

Q10: Can exterior lighting be mounted on the building?

A10: Yes.

Q11: What are the seismic requirements for these sites?

A11: From 01015, "The building and all parts thereof shall be designed for the seismic requirements as defined by the International Building Code referenced herein. Spectral ordinates shall be $S_s = 1.28g$ and $S_1 = 0.51g$."

Q12: What are the road access and parking requirements for each site?

A12: None.

Q13: What, if any are the landscaping and irrigation requirements for each site?

A13: There are no landscaping requirements.

Q14: Will these facilities require an exterior wall and gate?

A14: The finished facility does not require a permanent exterior wall or gate.

Q15: What will be the extent of the Handicapped Accessibility requirements inside the building? Will these requirements be imposed on the latrines, door jams, etc?

A15: From 01015, "In keeping with the intended function of these facilities, handicapped accessibility will be incorporated into this project to the greatest extent possible. Elevators shall not be required. At least one exterior handicapped access ramp shall be installed. The maximum slope of the ramp shall not exceed 8.5% and shall not exceed 10m in length without a landing platform. The interior width of the ramp shall not be less than one (1) meter." The ramp shall extend to the second floor. The drawings show accessible stalls.

Q16: Down spouts are called out, but I cannot find any information or specifications for rain gutters. What kind of rain gutters are required?

A16: Spec 01015, Section 3.11.2.2 General

Downspouts and gutters shall be designed and fabricated on site. Stella, we need to add the words "and gutters" as shown when we post an amendment.

Q17: Is there cell phone coverage at any of these sites?

A17: Most, if not all, of the sites have cell phone reception.

Q18: Can bat or blown insulation be used in the ceiling instead of rigid insulation?

A18: For bidding purposes, the bidder shall bid on rigid insulation. AED has procedures in place for value engineering proposals once contracts are let.

Q19: Can the concrete roof slab be eliminated and replaced with steel sheeting?

A19: The base bid is for a single slope concrete roof slab. There is an optional bid item for a standing seam metal roof; this type of roof is shown on the drawings.

Q20: Can a suspended ceiling system be used in the restrooms, stairwells, corridors and second floor ceilings?

A20: For bidding purposes, the bidder shall bid on painted plaster as specified in the drawings. AED has procedures in place for value engineering proposals once contracts are let.

Q21: We need the existing layout plan for demolition Works.

Page # 42- SECTION 01010 SCOPE OF WORK 1. GENERAL)

The contractor shall be responsible for demolitions of existing buildings, site grading and drainage plan, clearing and grubbing, and debris removal on each site as per the Technical Requirements of this contract

A21: This is a design build project, as such the contractor will establish the existing site layout survey. Contractors are encouraged to visit each site prior to submitting their bids.

Q22: We need the average water level for construction of well? And what is the distance from well to the new bldg. (new site layout plan) ? (Page #10) Water System (Well house, well, water treatment system and water distribution)

A22: This is a design build project, as such the contractor will establish the new site layout plan. Contractors are encouraged to visit each site prior to submitting their bids.

Q23: We need more detail drawing about Uxo /mine removal. How many sm of the site and connection area from existing road to the new bldg for removal mine work and topographical conditions. (Construction site layout plan)? (Page#42) (3-UXO/Mine Removal The contractor shall search, identify and clear all mines and unexploded ordnances (UXO's) from the entire site)

A23: UXO/Mine Removal is an optional item that may be exercised if UXO and Mines are encountered at the site. Contractors are encouraged to visit each site prior to submitting their bids. Each site is on an existing University campus or a site owned by the University and the likelihood of encountering UXOs is low. The information on UXO/Mine Removal is located in Section 01010 Scope of

Work. We do not recommend contractors, this is a competitive solicitation, so you must submit a proposal if you wish to be considered for this project.

Q24: Do sites have existing building structures such as the old Soviet school buildings or any structures that have to be demolished and thus pose a debris removal task.

A24: Bidders are encouraged to visit the site prior to bid to make their own assessments. There are no major structures within the proposed building footprint that require demolition; however, demo may be required for the construction of wells, septic tanks, leech fields, generators and fuel tanks.

Q25: Since practically all of our CM team is comprised of Expats (four maximum), will the contract have an LOA privilege.

A25: Yes, however the contractor has to be registered in SPOT.

Q26: Are these sites inside or outside the wire - and will USACE provide housing and meals.

A26: These sites are all outside "the wire" and not near any coalition force base or camp; security is the responsibility of the contractor as well as subsistence and housing.

Q27: Will solicitations provide "equitable adjustment clause". This would help somewhat if there are circumstances that were not known at the proposal stages

A27: NO

Q28. The exact location and coordination point of each school.

A28: See GPS coordinates in Answer 9.

Q29: In the mentioned RFP Proposal Schedule, item no;0004 AA Education Building area is (1402 m²). Could you explain that the mentioned area is for one story or for both two stories?

A29: The gross area for the base bid is 702 m² for the first floor, and 702 m² for the second floor for a total area of 1402 m².

Q30: Should we make the BOQ for the project W917PM-09-R-0008 or you have the BOQ.

A30: It is a design build project and the final Bill of Materials (BOQ) will be determined by the contractor.