

## **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

### **WY PFH 26-1(3), Sage Creek Road**

**November 14, 2012**

**Question 1:** Item #25301-0000 of the above referenced project - we couldn't locate anywhere on the plans, specifications and special provisions if these Gabions need to be manufactured from plain galvanized wire or from galvanized and PVC coated wire. Because there is a substantial price difference between the two types of Gabions, we would like to know if you could assist us in confirming which type of Gabions the Engineer required for this project.

**Answer 1:** FP- 03, Section 253.02 Material refers to Gabion and revet mattress material in FP section 720.02. Section 720.02 (a) basket mesh, calls for galvanized steel wire or aluminized steel wire.

**November 9, 2012**

**Question 1:** Our surveying company is preparing estimates for the road construction on the project referenced above. On each of these pages, on pay item number "15206-0000" for "SLOPE, REFERENCE, AND CLEARING AND GRUBBING STAKE", it states the estimated quantity for Bid Schedule A is 453.40 Stations (pg A-6), Bid Schedule B is 748.10 Stations (pg A-12), and Bid Schedule Option X is 572.70 Stations (pg A-19). What is this exactly? Our count of 50' stations needed in slope staking is far higher than this number. The decimal is also not understood either. Under pay item 15216-2000 on each of these pages it shows a number of stations twice that of #15206-0000.

**Answer 1:** The stations refers to a length. 1 Sta=100ft. Schedule A sta. 453.40=45,340 LNFT or 8.59 miles of roadway. Refer to FP-03 and the SCR's, Section 152 for additional details. Also refer to 152.06 payment. The number of stations in 15216-2000, Survey and Staking, Grade Finishing, Stakes is double because grade finishing stakes are required at subgrade and again at top of aggregate surface course.

**Question 2:** Is it possible that only either Schedule A or Schedule B could be awarded independent of each other?

**Answer 2:** Schedule A OR Schedule B will be awarded, not both. Option X may be awarded only if Schedule B is awarded. See page A-5 of the solicitation.

**Question 3:** Please confirm Schedule A and Schedule B durations are concurrent. i.e., if A& B are bid at the minimum calendar days each the entire project would need to be completed in the respective number of days from the NTP and not the combined total of 571 calendar days from the NTP date.

**Answer 3:** See answer to Question 2 above, wither Schedule A OR Schedule B will be awarded, not both.

**Question 4:** Would you consider allowing total road closure longer than the stated 4 hour durations for some activities? A few of the pipe crossings will likely take 2 to 3 days to complete and have minimal to no room to install a temporary runaround.

**Answer 4:** The contractor should bid the project using the road closure information included in the SCR's. No changes are anticipated at this time.

**Question 5:** Will the clearing debris piles that appear to be recently placed be removed prior to the notice to proceed?

**Answer 5:** If the contractor is referring to existing slash piles they will be burned by the Forest Service this fall.

**Question 6:** The Gabion Wall shows a gabion basket with either double twist mesh or welded wire mesh. The soil reinforcement shows only welded wire mesh. Will double twist mesh be approved for reinforcement?

**Answer 6:** Welded wire mesh is required for the soil reinforcement. Double twist mesh will not be approved for this purpose.

**Question 7:** Item Mulching Hydraulic Method bonded fiber matrix in schedule b is shown as SY not acres.

**Answer 7:** The estimated quantity for Schedule B, pay item no. 62516-3000 Mulching, Hydraulic Method, bonded fiber matrix should be revised from 20 SQYD to 20 acres.

**Question 8:** Please clarify the exact end of the contract days. Is this thru final completion. Considering the work window (HWY 70 generally opens May 31st & Closes November 15) Schedule A is a one season Project. Basically you have six months to work on the project, so I am trying to understand exactly what constitutes the end date.

**Answer 8:** Refer to the Bid Schedule Instructions, sheet A-4.

**Question 9:** Reference Page E-48, Section 157.12, Last Paragraph: This paragraph implies that construction water may be obtained from local project sources provided it is reported. Please identify government-furnished water sources for this project.

**Answer 9:** There are no government furnished water sources. The water usage reporting is required from all sources of water the contractor may use.

**Question 10:** Are there liquidated damages assessed on this project in addition to the daily Administrative Costs? If so, do liquidated damages only accrue only after the maximum number of calendar days allowed are exceeded for each schedule?

**Answer 10:** Refer to SCR page A-4, third bullet; Only liquidated damages will be assessed in accordance with subsection 108.04. Daily administrative costs are only used to evaluate bids

**Question 11:** Please clarify that the Administrative Cost days for Option X is the number of additional calendar days which would be added to the Schedule A or B calendar days to arrive at the total days allowed for construction of all contract work awarded?

**Answer 11:** Partially correct, the Administrative Cost days for Option X is the number of additional calendar days which would be added to the Schedule B calendar days to arrive at the total days allowed for construction of all contract work. However, the combination of Schedule A and Option X will not be considered for award. See page A-5, Evaluation Factors for Award, 2nd paragraph, for more information.

**Question 12:** Reference Bid Schedule A on Page A-11, Pay Item 63501-0000 TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CONTROL, FLAGGER. This bid item description implies that only flagging is to included under this item. Is there a compensation item for the other traffic control measures required for this project?

**Answer 12:** The description for Schedule A, pay item no. 63501-0000 is incorrect. Flagger should be deleted. This pay item is for all traffic control measures in schedule A.

**Question 13:** Please clarify if Builder's Risk insurance is required? The project specs reference the standard specs (FP-03) subsection 107.05 which is the general insurance requirements, however subsection 107.04 references builder's risk requirements.

**Answer 13:** Not clear what the contractor is referring to. The SCR's do not amend the FP for 107.04 or 107.05. FP-03, 107.04 Railroad Protection does not apply to this project.

**Question 14:** The project location, in close proximity to the Continental Divide, will reasonably prevent work activities and even travel for many months out of the year. Various weather records indicate frozen ground conditions should be expected between mid November thru mid March – a period of approximately 120 days. Why will there be a "Road User/Administrative Cost" during this period?

**Answer 14:** The instructions to bidders on schedule and incentive payments are clearly defined in the bid documents.

**Question 15:** The probably calendar days available for work without frozen ground conditions would be close to the same for both Bidder X and Bidder Y, However, the Road User/Administrative Cost amount would be different by  $(450-317) 133 \text{ days} \times \$3300.00 = \$438,900.00$ . Does this result in a reasonable valuation of the difference between each Bid?

**Answer 15:** The instructions to bidders on schedule and incentive payments are clearly defined in the bid documents.

**Question 16:** Why not recognize a period of "No time charged" for Winter shutdown and/or delay in Spring start?

**Answer 16:** If a winter shutdown is mutually agreed to by the contractor and the COE, and liquidated damages are already in effect, liquidated damages will be assessed per section 108.04 of the FP-03. Under no circumstances would a winter shutdown result in increased contract time (extended completion date).

**Question 17:** Project Special Provision 156.06j on page E-46 limits work areas to four locations total not more than 4000' combined. With a possible Project length of over 27 miles, can this be changed to allow more locations and a greater combined length?

**Answer 17:** The requirements in SCR 156.06j limiting the work locations to a combined 4000 feet will be deleted from the SCR's by amendment.

**Question 18:** Is the incentive amount shown on Page E19 reasonable in light of the limitation on the number of work areas and the combined length of those work areas?

**Answer 18:** See response to question 19.

**Question 19:** Project Special Provision 157.12 on page E48, where is the turbidity to be measured? Where is water use to be measured and can more than one location be used to draw water?

**Answer 19:** Turbidity is to be measured anytime construction activities are performed adjacent to a stream and have the potential of affecting the quality of the water. Water usage should be measured at the source of the water. FHWA does not have any restrictions on the number of sources the contractor uses. No water shall be extracted from any source that is on Forest Service property.

**November 7, 2012**

**Question 1:** Will it be possible to lease the rock quarry adjacent the project on Forest Service land? If so, what type of agreement would be available and whom would be the contact person/agency for the mine owner?

**Answer 1:** There are no Forest Service pits or quarries available for contractors to use for this project.