

W9126G-04-B-0018
Questions and Answers #1 Submitted under
Eagle Pass Border Patrol Station
UNRESTRICTED SOLICITATION

The following Questions and Answers are posted for viewing and are provided for informational purposes only to keep all bidders on equal footing. If the solicitation specifications need to be revised as a result of the Questions and Answers, a formal written amendment will be issued to that effect. The solicitation specifications, terms and conditions will remain as written unless a formal written amendment is issued.

1. Question: Section 15400, Page 26, Paragraph 3.1.4.1 Cast Iron and Ductile Iron, requires a cathodic protection system for pressure pipe. Though most pressure pipe installations are PVC, we still have isolated Cast Iron and/or Ductile Iron fittings installed in the pipeline such as 90's and T's and under the slab. Section 13110A, Cathodic Protection, is not included in the specifications for this project. Is this an oversight or is cathodic protection not required on the isolated fittings and under the slab?

Response: We do not have pressure pipe of ductile or cast iron. Providing it for fittings only is not necessary and would be difficult if not impossible to perform.

2. Question: Is Option #5 (Kennel) shown on the drawings to be part of this bid package? It is not on the Bidding Schedule.

Response: Bid Option 5 and 6 have been added to the bidding schedule under Amendment Number 0001.

3. Question: Are there any specifications for the Aluminum Sunshades?

Response: Refer Section 05500 Paragraph 2.14 and all related subparagraphs on pages 7 and 8 of 05500.

4. Question: Specification Section 05120, Pg. 4, Para. 1.5-AISC Quality Certification-I have received several calls from steel suppliers asking what exactly this means and if they can bid on this project. Can you please further explain what a "AISC certified Category cbd fabrication plant" is and if this will be enforce or can it be waived. I understand that most steel suppliers in South Texas do not have this certification. Does the Corps have a list of steel suppliers that do have this certification?

Response: The bidders should be held to the CBD standard. By 2006, both designations, CBD and SBD, will be replaced with one designation referred to as "AISC Certified Fabricator, Standard for Steel Building Structures." The implication is that the lower level of certification of SBD is being eliminated by changing the entire certification process.

The purpose of requiring AISC certification is to provide some reasonable amount of assurance to the consumer that the steel is being properly procured and fabricated. The master HDR specification offers one alternative as described below:

"Fabricators not certified shall have minimum 10 years experience and shall employ an approved testing agency to inspect fabrication work performed off site. The testing agency shall furnish weekly inspection reports and a final report to the Building Official and the Architect certifying the work was performed in accordance with the specifications and approved shop drawings."

For this project, either AISC CBD Certification or compliance with the above could satisfy the expertise need. We should NOT recommend relaxing the standard to SBD

5. Question: Bid Schedule does not list an Option #5...please advise.

Response: See response 2 above.

6. Question: Does the project require Primavera of CPM analysis?

Response: Contractor shall comply with scheduling requirements as outlined in 01320F.

7. Question: I am inquiring as to section 12490 window treatments, in the drawings for squadroom 1046 the specification ask for motorized shades on these windows. I identified a type 4 window in this room on a102 and then on a104 the mezzanine level there is a type 9 and 2 type 10 windows in this room. Please clarify if shades are required at the windows in the mezzanine area?

Response: The shades are required at the mezzanine level as called for by the note on the mezzanine plan A104 and shown on the wall sections and details through the windows.

These windows show up on the mezzanine plan A104 which has the upper level of the squad room 1046 shown that is open to below.

8. Question: How is the sales tax exemption status of the project communicated to bidders?

Response: Bidders are required to comply with FAR 52.229-3 Federal, State, and Local Taxes which requires that the contract price includes all applicable Federal, State, and local taxes and duties...The clause is included under Section 00700 of the solicitation.

9. Question: Regarding the Eagle Pass border patrol station I did not see any info regarding telecommunications cabling install or access control. Is that going to be another bid? If so what is the process for bidding on those specifications.

Response: It is correct that Telephone and Data cabling, equipment, and devices are not in the scope of the project and will be performed by the government under a separate contract. The conduit, raceway, and junction boxes are in the Base Bid scope of the project. The bidders reference to "access control" needs some clarification with regard to what he is asking. Option No. 6 does include the additional cost for all equipment, wiring and devices Specified in Sections 13798 – Duress Signal System, 16721 – Intercommunication System, And 16751 – Closed Circuit Television Systems. Conduit, raceway, and junction boxes are in the Base Bid scope of the project.