

	Calhoun County	Solicitation Number	FOR2015
	Request for Qualifications	Date Printed	09/09/15
		Date Issued	09/10/15
		Procurement Officer	Boyce Till
		Phone	(803) 655-5670
E-Mail Address	btill@calhouncounty.sc.gov		

DESCRIPTION: Delivery of General Forestry Consulting Services to include but not be limited to: Analysis of potential timber value on County-Owned Properties; Recommendations for clearing procedures for County-Owned Properties where appropriate; Identification and analysis of other timber or forestry needs as may be identified or required on County-Owned properties.

USING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT: CALHOUN COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

The Term "Offer" Means Your "Bid" or "Proposal".

SUBMIT OFFER BY : September 25th 2015 by 5:00 p.m.

QUESTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: September 18th by 3:00 p.m.

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: **One (1) original and three (2) copies**

Offers must be submitted in a sealed package. Solicitation Number & Opening Date must appear on package exterior.

SUBMIT YOUR SEALED OFFER TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

MAILING AND PHYSICAL ADDRESS:

Boyce Till, Procurement Officer
102 Courthouse Drive – Suite 112
St. Matthews, SC 29135

AWARD & AMENDMENTS	Award will be posted at the Physical Address stated above on 09/30/15. Amendments will be posted to the County's Procurement site at www.calhouncounty.sc.gov/departments/procurement
Bid Amount	\$N/A

You must submit a signed copy of this form with Your Offer. By submitting a bid or proposal, You agree to be bound by the terms of the Solicitation. You agree to hold Your Offer open for a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days after the Opening Date.

<p>NAME OF OFFEROR (Full legal name of business submitting the offer)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OFFEROR'S TYPE OF ENTITY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Check one)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sole Proprietorship</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Partnership</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Corporation (tax – exempt)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Corporate Entity (not tax – exempt)</p>
<p>AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE</p> <p><small>(Person signing must be authorized to submit bidding offer to enter contract on behalf of Offeror named above)</small></p>	
<p>TITLE (Business title of person signing above)</p>	
<p>PRINTED NAME (Printed name of person signing above)</p>	
<p>DATE SIGNED</p>	

		<input type="checkbox"/> Government entity (federal, state, or local) <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ (See "Signing Your Offer" provision")
Instructions regarding Offeror's name: Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the offeror above. An offer may be submitted by only one legal entity. The entity named as the offeror must be a single and distinct legal entity. Do not use the name of a branch office or division of a larger entity if the branch or division is not a separate legal entity, <i>i.e.</i> , a separate corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, etc.		
STATE OF INCORPORATION		(If offeror is a corporation, identify the state of Incorporation)
TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NO.		(See "Taxpayer Identification Number" provision)

PAGE TWO
(Return Page Two with Your Offer)

<p>HOME OFFICE ADDRESS (Address for offeror's home office/ principal place of business)</p>				<p>NOTICE ADDRESS (Address to which all procurement and contract related notices should be sent.) (See "Notice" clause)</p>					
				Area Code	Number	Extension	Facsimile		
				E-mail Address					
<p>PAYMENT ADDRESS (Address to which payments will be sent.) (See "Payment" clause)</p>				<p>ORDER ADDRESS (Address to which purchase orders will be sent) (See "Purchase Orders" and "Contract Documents" clauses)</p>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Home Office Address <input type="checkbox"/> Payment Address same as Notice Address (check only one)				<input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Home Office Address <input type="checkbox"/> Order Address same as Notice Address (check only one)					
<p>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AMENDMENTS</p> <p>Offeror acknowledges receipt of amendments by indicating amendment number and its date of issue.</p> <p>See "Amendments to Solicitation" Provision</p>	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	
<p>DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT See "Discount for Prompt Payment" clause</p>	10 Calendar Days (%)		20 Calendar Days (%)		30 Calendar Days (%)		_____ Calendar Days (%)		
<p>PREFERENCES – SC RESIDENT VENDOR PREFERENCE (June 2005): Section 11-35-1524 provides a preference for offerors that qualify as a resident vendor. A resident vendor is an offeror that (a) is authorized to transact business within South Carolina, (b) maintains an office* in South Carolina, (c) either (1) maintains a minimum \$10,000.00 representative inventory at the time of the solicitation, or (2) is a manufacturer which is headquartered and has at least a ten million dollar payroll in South Carolina, and the product is made or processed from raw materials into a finished end-product by such manufacturer or an affiliate (as defined in section 1653 of the Internal Revenue Code) of such manufacturer, and (d) has paid all assessed taxes. If applicable, preference will be applied as required by law.</p>				<p>OFFERORS REQUESTING THIS PREFERENCE MUST INITIAL HERE. _____.</p> <p>*ADDRESS AND PHONE OF IN-STATE OFFICE</p>					
				<input type="checkbox"/> In-State Office Address same as Home Office <input type="checkbox"/> In-State Office Address same as Notice Address <p style="text-align: right;">(CHECK ONLY ONE)</p>					
<p>PREFERENCES – SC/US END-PRODUCT (June 2005): Section 11-35-1524 provides a preference to vendors offering South Carolina end-products or US end-products, if those products are made, manufactured, or grown in SC or the US respectively. An end-product is the item identified for acquisition in this solicitation, including all component parts in final form and ready for the use intended. The terms "made", "manufactured", and "grown" are defined by Section 11-35-1524(B). By signing your offer and checking the appropriate space(s) provided and identified on the bid schedule, offeror certifies that the end-product(s) is either made, manufactured or grown in South Carolina, or other states of the United States, as applicable. Preference will be applied as required by law.</p>				<p>IF THIS PREFERENCE APPLIES TO THIS PROCUREMENT, PART VII (BIDDING SCHEDULE) WILL INCLUDE A PLACE TO CLAIM THE PREFERENCE. OFFERORS REQUESTING THIS PREFERENCE MUST CHECK THE APPROPRIATE SPACES ON THE BIDDING SCHEDULE.</p>					

Part I. Scope of Solicitation

ACQUIRE SERVICES (JAN 2006): The purpose of this solicitation is to acquire services complying with the enclosed description and/or specifications and conditions.

Part II. Instructions to Offerors - A. General Instructions

AWARD NOTIFICATION (JAN 2004) Notice regarding the State's intent to award a contract will be posted at the location specified on the Cover Page. The date and location of posting will be announced at opening. If the contract resulting from this Solicitation has a total or potential value in excess of fifty thousand dollars, such notice will be sent to all Offerors responding to the Solicitation and any award will not be effective until the sixteenth day after such notice is given.

BID / PROPOSAL AS OFFER TO CONTRACT (JAN 2004) By submitting Your Bid or Proposal, You are offering to enter into a contract with the Using Governmental Unit(s). Without further action by either party, a binding contract shall result upon final award. Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the Offeror on the Cover Page. An Offer may be submitted by only one legal entity; "joint bids" are not allowed.

BID IN ENGLISH & DOLLARS (JAN 2004) Offers submitted in response to this solicitation shall be in the English language and in US dollars, unless otherwise permitted by the Solicitation.

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS (JAN 2004)

(a)(1) By submitting an Offer, Offeror certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that-

(i) Offeror and/or any of its Principals-

(A) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any state or federal agency;

(B) Have not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for: commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, state, or local) contract or subcontract; violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or receiving stolen property; and

(C) Are not presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity with, commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this provision.

(ii) Offeror has not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any public (Federal, state, or local) entity.

(2) "Principals," for the purposes of this certification, means officers; directors; owners; partners; and, persons having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g., general manager; plant manager; head of a subsidiary, division, or business segment, and similar positions).

(b) Offeror shall provide immediate written notice to the Procurement Officer if, at any time prior to contract award, Offeror learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

(c) If Offeror is unable to certify the representations stated in paragraphs (a)(1), Offer must submit a written explanation regarding its inability to make the certification. The certification will be considered in connection with a review of the Offeror's responsibility. Failure of the Offeror to furnish additional information as requested by the Procurement Officer may render the Offeror nonresponsible.

(d) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the certification required by paragraph (a) of this provision. The knowledge and information of an Offeror is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

(e) The certification in paragraph (a) of this provision is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making award. If it is later determined that the Offeror knowingly or in bad faith rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the State, the Procurement Officer may terminate the contract resulting from this solicitation for default.

COMPLETION OF FORMS / CORRECTION OF ERRORS (JAN 2006): All prices and notations should be printed in ink or typewritten. Errors should be crossed out, corrections entered and initialed by the person signing the bid. Do not modify the solicitation document itself (including bid schedule). (Applicable only to offers submitted on paper.)

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF OFFER (JAN 2004) Any offer received after the Procurement Officer of the governmental body or his designee has declared that the time set for opening has arrived, shall be rejected unless the offer has been delivered to the designated purchasing office or the governmental bodies' mail room which services that purchasing office prior to the bid opening. [R.19-445.2070(H)]

DEFINITIONS (JAN 2004) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED HEREIN, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL PARTS OF THE SOLICITATION.

AMENDMENT – means a document issued to supplement the original solicitation document.

BOARD – means the South Carolina Budget & Control Board.

BUYER – means the Procurement Officer.

CHANGE ORDER - means any written alteration in specifications, delivery point, rate of delivery, period of performance, price, quantity, or other provisions of any contract accomplished by mutual agreement of the parties to the contract.

CONTRACT - See clause entitled “Contract Documents & Order of Precedence.”

CONTRACT MODIFICATION – means a written order signed by the Procurement Officer, directing the contractor to make changes which the changes clause of the contract authorizes the Procurement Officer to order without the consent of the contractor.

CONTRACTOR - means the Offeror receiving an award as a result of this solicitation.

COVER PAGE – means the top page of the original solicitation on which the solicitation is identified by number. Offerors are cautioned that Amendments may modify information provided on the Cover Page.

OFFER – means the bid or proposal submitted in response this solicitation. The terms “Bid” and “Proposal” are used interchangeably with the term “Offer.”

OFFEROR – means the single legal entity submitting the offer. The term “Bidder” is used interchangeably with the term “Offeror.” See bidding provisions entitled “Signing Your Offer” and “Bid/Proposal As Offer To Contract.”

ORDERING ENTITY - Using Governmental Unit that has submitted a Purchase Order.

PAGE TWO – means the second page of the original solicitation, which is labeled Page Two.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER – means the person, or his successor, identified as such on the Cover Page.

YOU and YOUR – means Offeror.

SOLICITATION – means this document, including all its parts, attachments, and any Amendments.

STATE – means the Using Governmental Unit(s) identified on the Cover Page.

SUBCONTRACTOR – means any person having a contract to perform work or render service to Contractor as a part of the Contractor’s agreement arising from this solicitation.

USING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT – means the unit(s) of government identified as such on the Cover Page. If the Cover Page names a “Statewide Term Contract” as the Using Governmental Unit, the Solicitation seeks to establish a Term Contract [11-35-310(35)] open for use by all South Carolina Public Procurement Units [11-35-4610(5)].

WORK - means all labor, materials, equipment and services provided or to be provided by the Contractor to fulfill the Contractor’s obligations under the Contract.

DRUG FREE WORK PLACE CERTIFICATION (JAN 2004) By submitting an Offer, Contractor certifies that, if awarded a contract, Contractor will comply with all applicable provisions of The Drug-free Workplace Act, Title 44, Chapter 107 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended.

DUTY TO INQUIRE (JAN 2004) Offeror, by submitting an Offer, represents that it has read and understands the Solicitation and that its Offer is made in compliance with the Solicitation. Offerors are expected to examine the Solicitation thoroughly and should request an explanation of any ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror’s risk. Offeror assumes responsibility for any patent ambiguity in the Solicitation that Offeror does not bring to the State’s attention.

ETHICS ACT (JAN 2004) By submitting an Offer, You certify that You are in compliance with South Carolina’s Ethics, Government Accountability, and Campaign Reform Act of 1991, as amended. The following statutes require special attention: (a) Offering, giving, soliciting, or receiving anything of value

to influence action of public employee – Section 8-13-790, (b) Recovery of kickbacks – Section 8-13-790, (c) Offering, soliciting, or receiving money for advice or assistance of public official – Section 8-13-720, (d) Use or disclosure of confidential information – Section 8-13-725, and (e) Persons hired to assist in the preparation of specifications or evaluation of bids – Section 8-13-1150.

OMIT TAXES FROM PRICE (JAN 2004): Do not include any sales or use taxes in Your price that the State may be required to pay.

PROTESTS (JAN 2004) Any prospective bidder, offeror, contractor, or subcontractor who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation of a contract shall protest within fifteen days of the date of issuance of the applicable solicitation document at issue. Any actual bidder, offeror, contractor, or subcontractor who is aggrieved in connection with the intended award or award of a contract shall protest within fifteen days of the date notification of award is posted in accordance with this code. A protest shall be in writing, submitted to the appropriate chief Procurement Officer, and shall set forth the grounds of the protest and the relief requested with enough particularity to give notice of the issues to be decided. [§ 11-35-4210]

PUBLIC OPENING (JAN 2004) Offers will be publicly opened at the date / time and at the location identified on the Cover Page, or last Amendment, whichever is applicable.

QUESTIONS FROM OFFERORS (JAN 2004): (a) Any prospective offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, drawings, specifications, etc., must request it in writing. Questions must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than five (5) days prior to opening unless otherwise stated on the Cover Page. Label any communication regarding your questions with the name of the procurement officer, and the solicitation's title and number. Oral explanations or instructions will not be binding. Any information given a prospective offeror concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective offerors as an Amendment to the solicitation, if that information is necessary for submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to other prospective offerors. (b) The State seeks to permit maximum practicable competition. Offerors are urged to advise the Procurement Officer – as soon as possible – regarding any aspect of this procurement, including any aspect of the Solicitation, that unnecessarily or inappropriately limits full and open competition.

REJECTION/CANCELLATION (JAN 2004) The State may cancel this solicitation in whole or in part. The State may reject any or all proposals in whole or in part. [SC Code Section 11-35-1710 & R.19-445.2065.]

RESPONSIVENESS / IMPROPER OFFERS (JAN 2004)

(a) Bid as Specified. Offers for supplies or services other than those specified will not be considered unless authorized by the Solicitation.

(b) Multiple Offers. Offerors may submit more than one Offer, provided that each Offer has significant differences other than price. Each separate Offer must satisfy all Solicitation requirements. If this solicitation is an Invitation for Bids, each separate offer must be submitted as a separate document. If this solicitation is a Request for Proposals, multiple offers may be submitted as one document, provided that you clearly differentiate between each offer and you submit a separate cost proposal for each offer, if applicable.

(c) Responsiveness. Any Offer which fails to conform to the material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected as nonresponsive. Offers which impose conditions that modify material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected. If a fixed price is required, an Offer will be rejected if the total possible cost to the State cannot be determined. Offerors will not be given an opportunity to correct any material nonconformity. Any deficiency resulting from a minor informality may be cured or waived at the sole discretion of the Procurement Officer. [R.19-445.2070 and Section 11-35-1520(13)]

(d) Price Reasonableness: Any offer may be rejected if the Procurement Officer determines in writing that it is unreasonable as to price. [R. 19-445.2070].

(e) Unbalanced Bidding. The State may reject an Offer as nonresponsive if the prices bid are materially unbalanced between line items or subline items. A bid is materially unbalanced when it is based on prices significantly less than cost for some work and prices which are significantly overstated in relation to cost for other work, and if there is a reasonable doubt that the bid will result in the lowest overall cost to the State even though it may be the low evaluated bid, or if it is so unbalanced as to be tantamount to allowing an advance payment.

RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE TO OFFERORS (JAN 2004) Violation of these restrictions may result in disqualification of your offer, suspension or debarment, and may constitute a violation of the state Ethics Act. (a) After issuance of the solicitation, ***you agree not to discuss this procurement activity in any way with the Using Governmental Unit or its employees, agents or officials.*** All communications must be solely with the Procurement Officer. This restriction may be lifted by express written permission from the Procurement Officer. This restriction expires once a contract has been formed. (b) Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Procurement Officer, ***you agree not to give anything to any Using Governmental Unit or its employees, agents or officials prior to award.***

SIGNING YOUR OFFER (JAN 2004) Every Offer must be signed by an individual with actual authority to bind the Offeror. (a) If the Offeror is an individual, the Offer must be signed by that individual. If the Offeror is an individual doing business as a firm, the Offer must be submitted in the firm name, signed by the individual, and state that the individual is doing business as a firm. (b) If the Offeror is a partnership, the Offer must be submitted in the partnership name, followed by the words "by its Partner," and signed by a general partner. (c) If the Offeror is a corporation, the Offer must be submitted in the corporate name, followed by the signature and title of the person authorized to sign. (d) An Offer may be submitted by a joint venturer involving any combination of individuals, partnerships, or corporations. If the Offeror is a joint venture, the Offer must be submitted in the name of the Joint Venture and signed by every participant in the joint venture in the manner prescribed in paragraphs (a) through (c) above for each type of participant. (e) If an Offer is signed by an agent, other than as stated in subparagraphs (a) through (d) above, the Offer must state that it has been signed by an Agent. Upon request, Offeror must provide proof of the agent's authorization to bind the principal.

STATE OFFICE CLOSINGS (JAN 2004) If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal government processes so that offers cannot be received at the government office designated for receipt of bids by the exact time specified in the solicitation, the time specified for receipt of offers will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal government processes resume. In lieu of an automatic extension, an Amendment may be issued to reschedule bid opening. If state offices are closed at the time a pre-bid or pre-proposal conference is

scheduled, an Amendment will be issued to reschedule the conference. Useful information may be available at: <http://www.scecmd.org/myscgovweb/weather.html>

SUBMITTING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION (AUG 2002): (An overview is available at www.procurement.sc.gov) For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "CONFIDENTIAL" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains information that is exempt from public disclosure because it is either (a) a trade secret as defined in Section 30-4-40(a)(1), or (b) privileged and confidential, as that phrase is used in Section 11-35-410. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the words "TRADE SECRET" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains a trade secret as that term is defined by Section 39-8-20 of the Trade Secrets Act. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "PROTECTED" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends is protected by Section 11-35-1810. All markings must be conspicuous; use color, bold, underlining, or some other method in order to conspicuously distinguish the mark from the other text. Do not mark your entire response (bid, proposal, quote, etc.) as confidential, trade secret, or protected! If your response, or any part thereof, is improperly marked as confidential or trade secret or protected, the State may, in its sole discretion, determine it nonresponsive. If only portions of a page are subject to some protection, do not mark the entire page. By submitting a response to this solicitation or request, Offeror (1) agrees to the public disclosure of every page of every document regarding this solicitation or request that was submitted at any time prior to entering into a contract (including, but not limited to, documents contained in a response, documents submitted to clarify a response, and documents submitted during negotiations), unless the page is conspicuously marked "TRADE SECRET" or "CONFIDENTIAL" or "PROTECTED", (2) agrees that any information not marked, as required by these bidding instructions, as a "Trade Secret" is not a trade secret as defined by the Trade Secrets Act, and (3) agrees that, notwithstanding any claims or markings otherwise, any prices, commissions, discounts, or other financial figures used to determine the award, as well as the final contract amount, are subject to public disclosure. In determining whether to release documents, the State will detrimentally rely on Offeror's marking of documents, as required by these bidding instructions, as being either "Confidential" or "Trade Secret" or "PROTECTED". By submitting a response, Offeror agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State of South Carolina, its officers and employees, from every claim, demand, loss, expense, cost, damage or injury, including attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from the State withholding information that Offeror marked as "confidential" or "trade secret" or "PROTECTED". (All references to S.C. Code of Laws.)

SUBMITTING YOUR OFFER OR MODIFICATION (JAN 2004) (a) Offers and offer modifications shall be submitted in sealed envelopes or packages (unless submitted by electronic means) – (1) Addressed to the office specified in the Solicitation; and (2) Showing the time and date specified for opening, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the bidder. (b) If you are responding to more than one solicitation, each offer must be submitted in a different envelope or package. (c) Each Offeror must submit the number of copies indicated on the Cover Page. (d) Offerors using commercial carrier services shall ensure that the Offer is addressed and marked on the outermost envelope or wrapper as prescribed in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this provision when delivered to the office specified in the Solicitation. (e) Facsimile or e-mail offers, modifications, or withdrawals, will not be considered unless

authorized by the Solicitation. (f) Offers submitted by electronic commerce shall be considered only if the electronic commerce method was specifically stipulated or permitted by the solicitation.

TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (JAN 2004): (a) If Offeror is owned or controlled by a common parent as defined in paragraph (b) of this provision, Offeror shall submit with its Offer the name and TIN of common parent.

(b) Definitions: "Common parent," as used in this provision, means that corporate entity that owns or controls an affiliated group of corporations that files its Federal income tax returns on a consolidated basis, and of which the offeror is a member. "Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)," as used in this provision, means the number required by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to be used by the offeror in reporting income tax and other returns. The TIN may be either a Social Security Number or an Employer Identification Number.

(c) If Offeror does not have a TIN, Offeror shall indicate if either a TIN has been applied for or a TIN is not required. If a TIN is not required, indicate whether (i) Offeror is a nonresident alien, foreign corporation, or foreign partnership that does not have income effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States and does not have an office or place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the United States; (ii) Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of a state or local government; (iii) Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of a foreign government; or (iv) Offeror is an agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government.

WITHDRAWAL OR CORRECTION OF OFFER (JAN 2004) Offers may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before the exact time set for opening. If the Solicitation authorizes facsimile offers, offers may be withdrawn via facsimile received at any time before the exact time set for opening. A bid may be withdrawn in person by a bidder or its authorized representative if, before the exact time set for opening, the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the bid. The withdrawal and correction of Offers is governed by S.C. Code Section 11-35-1520 and Regulation 19-445.2085.

CONTENTS OF OFFER - RFP - Solutions Based (JAN 2006): The following outline may be helpful in preparing your proposal. Your offer should address each of the areas outlined below (as applicable) and provide the information requested. As your offer will be evaluated based on the information you provide, failure to provide a complete and comprehensive presentation of your solution could negatively affect our evaluation of your offer.

1. Executive Overview: Your offer should include a summary of the proposed solution that reflects your understanding of both the state's needs and how your solution will satisfy those needs. Please explain your overall approach to the management of this effort, including a brief discussion of the total organization (structure and relationships among personnel and consultants / subcontractors).
2. Technical Overview: Your offer should include a summary of the proposed technical solution with enough detail to demonstrate an understanding of the current environment and scope of the project
3. Detailed explanation of proposed solution

- 3.1 Management
 - 3.1.1 Implementation schedule
 - 3.1.1.1 from contract formation to installation and acceptance
 - 3.1.1.2 installation, testing, and pilot, as appropriate
 - 3.1.1.3 detailed staffing deployment schedule
 - 3.1.1.4 milestones and deliverables
 - 3.1.2 Project management practices, policies, and certifications
 - 3.1.3 Application development methodologies
 - 3.1.4 Subcontracting, outsourcing, offshore contribution (if any)
 - 3.1.5 Escalation policies, practices, and contacts
- 3.2 Technical. As appropriate, provide a explanation and/or information about the following, in detail:
 - 3.2.1 Functional capabilities of the proposed solution, including all performance capabilities, specifications and response times.
 - 3.2.2 Technical information about proposed solution, including technical specifications of any proposed equipment or services
 - 3.2.3 Software, if any, including manufacturer, functional capabilities, warranties, support levels, and documentation (any applicable license agreements and documents reflecting offeror's authority to include such software).
 - 3.2.4 Services included in the proposal and otherwise available
 - 3.2.5 Environmental requirements for the proposed solution.
 - 3.2.6 Software development plan, interfaces documentation, data synchronization, and replication plans, etc.
 - 3.2.7 Technical and operational manuals, by reference.
- 3.3 Change Management. Who initiates change requests, what justifications and explanations are included, risks associated with change, approval process, etc.
- 3.4 Installation and support.
 - 3.4.1 Installation – provide detailed information on the installation requirements and schedule.

- 3.4.2 Training – explain any proposed training solution. Include plans for training new employees beyond the initial training cycle, employee readiness evaluations, training feedback, student-instructor ratios, duration of training, etc. Include plans for updating and maintaining training plans, system documentation, operational documentation, etc. For the duration of the implementation or term of the contract as appropriate. Include any other training solutions that are available.
- 3.4.3 Support services including hardware and software maintenance – include an explanation of any proposed support services including performance guarantees. Identify all proposed maintenance including a detailed explanation of response times. Include any forms or agreements.
- 3.4.4 Data conversion requirements should include who is responsible for developing any data conversion programs, what the acceptable level of conversion, how many records are to be converted, who is responsible for entering any records that do not convert properly, etc.
- 3.4.5 Service level agreements (SLA) with performance commitments. If appropriate, include industry standard response times and performance requirements for normal business processing and/or critical business processing as appropriate.
- 3.4.6 Disaster recovery plans should be included, as appropriate.
- 3.4.7 Back-up plans for proposed network, data, and systems outages and disruptions, if appropriate.
- 3.4.8 Warranties – include all functional, performance, and quality of workmanship warranties. Describe acceptable warranty performance specifications and warranty performance reporting to include number of calls, number and type of repairs and changes, etc.
- 3.5 Intellectual property: explain the ownership rights to all proposed intellectual property.
- 3.6 Staffing
 - 3.6.1 Contractor
 - 3.6.1.1 Key staff, their resumes, and areas of responsibility on this project
 - 3.6.1.2 Non-key staff, by number and areas of responsibility on this project
 - 3.6.1.3 State the number of state employees necessary and what training and skill levels are anticipated?
 - 3.6.2 Other – are there any other staffing requirements?
- 3.7 Business proposals

- 3.7.1 Total cost of ownership – provide anticipated cost of purchasing, owning, operating, maintaining, and supporting the proposed solution for the total potential term of the contract. Include a detailed accounting of the total cost of ownership.
 - 3.7.2 Risk analysis – identify the internal and external factors could significantly impact the probability of completing this project on time and within budget
 - 3.7.3 Risk mitigation – identify any actions that could be taken to mitigate the identified risks
 - 3.7.4 Risk sharing – identify any opportunities for mutually beneficial risk sharing
 - 3.7.5 Performance incentives – identify any opportunities for performance-based incentives
 - 3.7.6 Financing options – identify any alternative financing options available to the state
- 3.8 Offeror’s Qualifications. Provide the information requested by the following provisions:
- Qualifications – Required Information
 - Subcontractor – Identification

Part III. Scope of Work / Specifications

The vendor will provide delivery of General Forestry Consulting Services to include but not be limited to: Analysis of potential timber value on County-Owned Properties; Recommendations for clearing procedures for County-Owned Properties where appropriate; Identification and analysis of other timber or forestry needs as may be identified or required on County-Owned properties.

DELIVERY / PERFORMANCE LOCATION - SPECIFIED (JAN 2006): After award, all deliveries shall be made and all services provided to the following address, unless otherwise specified: 102 Courthouse Drive, St. Matthews, SC 29135

Part IV. Information For Offerors To Submit

INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT – GENERAL (JAN 2006): Offeror shall submit a signed Cover Page and Page Two. Offeror should submit all other information and documents requested in this part and in parts II.B. Special Instructions; III. Scope of Work; V. Qualifications; VIII. Bidding Schedule/Price Proposal; and any appropriate attachments addressed in section IX. Attachments to Solicitations.

- Submit one original and two (2) copies of each proposal.
- Federal Standard Form 330 (SF330).
- Proposals, amendments thereto or withdrawal requests received after the time advertised for proposal opening will be void regardless of when they were mailed.

Part V. Qualifications

QUALIFICATION OF OFFEROR (JAN 2006) To be eligible for award of a contract, a prospective contractor must be responsible. In evaluating an Offeror’s responsibility, the State Standards of

Responsibility [R.19-445.2125] and information from any other source may be considered. An Offeror must, upon request of the State, furnish satisfactory evidence of its ability to meet all contractual requirements. Unreasonable failure to supply information promptly in connection with a responsibility inquiry may be grounds for determining that you are ineligible to receive an award. S.C. Code Section 11-35-1810.

QUALIFICATIONS – REQUIRED INFORMATION (JAN 2006): In order to evaluate your responsibility, offeror shall submit the following information or documentation for the offeror and any subcontractor, if the value of subcontractor’s portion of the work exceeds 10% of your price (if in doubt, provide the information):

- (a) Include a brief history of the offeror’s experience in providing work of similar size and scope.
- (b) Your most current financial statement, financial statements for your last two fiscal years, and information reflecting your current financial position. If you have audited financial statements meeting these requirements, you must provide those statements. [Reference Statement of Concepts No. 5 (FASB, December, 1984)]
- (c) A detailed, narrative statement listing the three most recent, comparable contracts (including contact information) which you have performed and the general history and experience of your organization.
- (d) A list of every business for which offeror has performed, at any time during the past three year(s), services substantially similar to those sought with this solicitation. Err on the side of inclusion; by submitting an offer, offeror represents that the list is complete.
- (e) List of failed projects, suspensions, debarments, and significant litigation.
- (f) A copy of Federal Standard Form 330 (SF 330) available at <http://www.forms.gov/bgfPortal/docDetails.do?dId=15925>

SUBCONTRACTOR – IDENTIFICATION (JAN 2006): If you intend to subcontract with another business for any portion of the work and that portion exceeds 10% of your price, your offer must identify that business and the portion of work which they are to perform. Identify potential subcontractors by providing the business’ name, address, phone, taxpayer identification number, and point of contact. In determining your responsibility, the state may evaluate your proposed subcontractors.

Part VI. Award Criteria

AWARD CRITERIA – PROPOSALS (JAN 2006): Award will be made to the highest ranked, responsive and responsible offeror whose offer is determined to be the most advantageous to the State.

COMPETITION FROM PUBLIC ENTITIES (JAN 2006): If a South Carolina governmental entity submits an offer, the Procurement Officer will, when determining the lowest offer, add to the price provided in any offers submitted by non-governmental entities a percentage equivalent to any applicable sales or use tax. S.C. Code Ann. Regs 117-304.1 (Supp. 2004).

EVALUATION FACTORS – PROPOSALS (JAN 2006): Offers will be evaluated using only the factors stated below. Evaluation factors are stated in the relative order of importance, with the first factor being

the most important. Once evaluation is complete, all responsive offerors will be ranked from most advantageous to least advantageous.

1. Past Performance
2. Related Experience
3. Ability of Professional Personnel
4. Demonstrated ability to meet time and budget requirements
5. Recent, Current, and Projected workload
6. Distance of Engineering Firm to Project area
7. Number of employees or taxpayers from Calhoun County

NEGOTIATIONS (JAN 2006): The Procurement Officer may elect to make an award without conducting negotiations. However, after the offers have been ranked, the Procurement Officer may elect to negotiate price or the general scope of work with the highest ranked offeror. If a satisfactory agreement cannot be reached, negotiations may be conducted with the second, and then the third, and so on, ranked offerors to such level of ranking as determined by the Procurement Officer.

Part VII. Terms and Conditions – A. General

ASSIGNMENT (JAN 2006): No contract or its provisions may be assigned, sublet, or transferred without the written consent of the Procurement Officer.

BANKRUPTCY (JAN 2006): (a) Notice. In the event the Contractor enters into proceedings relating to bankruptcy, whether voluntary or involuntary, the Contractor agrees to furnish written notification of the bankruptcy to the Using Governmental Unit. This notification shall be furnished within five (5) days of the initiation of the proceedings relating to the bankruptcy filing. This notification shall include the date on which the bankruptcy petition was filed, the identity of the court in which the bankruptcy petition was filed, and a listing of all State contracts against which final payment has not been made. This obligation remains in effect until final payment under this Contract. (b) Termination. This contract is voidable and subject to immediate termination by the State upon the contractor's insolvency, including the filing of proceedings in bankruptcy.

CHOICE-OF-LAW (JAN 2006): The Agreement, any dispute, claim, or controversy relating to the Agreement, and all the rights and obligations of the parties shall, in all respects, be interpreted, construed, enforced and governed by and under the laws of the State of South Carolina, except its choice of law rules. As used in this paragraph, the term "Agreement" means any transaction or agreement arising out of, relating to, or contemplated by the solicitation.

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS & ORDER OF PRECEDENCE (JAN 2006): (a) Any contract resulting from this solicitation shall consist of the following documents: (1) a Record of Negotiations, if any, executed by you and the Procurement Officer, (2) documentation regarding the clarification of an offer [e.g., 11-35-1520(8) or 11-35-1530(6)], if applicable, (3) the solicitation, as amended, (4) modifications, if any, to your offer, if accepted by the Procurement Officer, (5) your offer, (6) any statement reflecting the state's final acceptance (a/k/a "award"), and (7) purchase orders. These documents shall be read to be consistent and complimentary. Any conflict among these documents shall be resolved by giving priority to these documents in the order listed above. (b) The terms and conditions of documents (1) through (6)

above shall apply notwithstanding any additional or different terms and conditions in either (i) a purchase order or other instrument submitted by the State or (ii) any invoice or other document submitted by Contractor. Except as otherwise allowed herein, the terms and conditions of all such documents shall be void and of no effect. (c) No contract, license, or other agreement containing contractual terms and conditions will be signed by any Using Governmental Unit. Any document signed or otherwise agreed to by persons other than the Procurement Officer shall be void and of no effect.

DISPUTES (JAN 2006): (1) Choice-of-Forum. All disputes, claims, or controversies relating to the Agreement shall be resolved exclusively by the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer in accordance with Title 11, Chapter 35, Article 17 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, or in the absence of jurisdiction, only in the Court of Common Pleas for, or a federal court located in, Richland County, State of South Carolina. Contractor agrees that any act by the Government regarding the Agreement is not a waiver of either the Government's sovereign immunity or the Government's immunity under the Eleventh Amendment of the United State's Constitution. As used in this paragraph, the term "Agreement" means any transaction or agreement arising out of, relating to, or contemplated by the solicitation. (2) Service of Process. Contractor consents that any papers, notices, or process necessary or proper for the initiation or continuation of any disputes, claims, or controversies relating to the Agreement; for any court action in connection therewith; or for the entry of judgment on any award made, may be served on Contractor by certified mail (return receipt requested) addressed to Contractor at the address provided as the Notice Address on Page Two or by personal service or by any other manner that is permitted by law, in or outside South Carolina. Notice by certified mail is deemed duly given upon deposit in the United States mail.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY (JAN 2006): Contractor is referred to and shall comply with all applicable provisions, if any, of Title 41, Part 60 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including but not limited to Sections 60-1.4, 60-4.2, 60-4.3, 60-250.5(a), and 60-741.5(a), which are hereby incorporated by reference.

FALSE CLAIMS (JAN 2006): According to the S.C. Code of Laws § 16-13-240, "a person who by false pretense or representation obtains the signature of a person to a written instrument or obtains from another person any chattel, money, valuable security, or other property, real or personal, with intent to cheat and defraud a person of that property is guilty" of a crime.

FIXED PRICING REQUIRED (JAN 2006): Any pricing provided by contractor shall include all costs for performing the work associated with that price. Except as otherwise provided in this solicitation, contractor's price shall be fixed for the duration of this contract, including option terms. This clause does not prohibit contractor from offering lower pricing after award.

NON-INDEMNIFICATION (JAN 2006): Any term or condition is void to the extent it requires the State to indemnify anyone.

NOTICE (JAN 2006): (A) After award, any notices shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given (1) upon actual delivery, if delivery is by hand, (2) upon receipt by the transmitting party of automated confirmation or answer back from the recipient's device if delivery is by telex, telegram, facsimile, or electronic mail, or (3) upon deposit into the United States mail, if postage is prepaid, a return receipt is requested, and either registered or certified mail is used. (B) Notice to contractor shall be to the address identified as the Notice Address on Page Two. Notice to the state shall be to the Procurement Officer's

address on the Cover Page. Either party may designate a different address for notice by giving notice in accordance with this paragraph.

PAYMENT (JAN 2006): (a) The Using Governmental Unit shall pay the Contractor, after the submission of proper invoices or vouchers, the prices stipulated in this contract for supplies delivered and accepted or services rendered and accepted, less any deductions provided in this contract. Unless otherwise specified in this contract, including the purchase order, payment shall not be made on partial deliveries accepted by the Government. (b) Unless the purchase order specifies another method of payment, payment will be made by check. (c) Payment and interest shall be made in accordance with S.C. Code Section 11-35-45. Contractor waives imposition of an interest penalty unless the invoice submitted specifies that the late penalty is applicable.

PUBLICITY (JAN 2006): Contractor shall not publish any comments or quotes by State employees, or include the State in either news releases or a published list of customers, without the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer.

PURCHASE ORDERS (JAN 2006): Contractor shall not perform any work prior to the receipt of a purchase order from the using governmental unit. The using governmental unit shall order any supplies or services to be furnished under this contract by issuing a purchase order. Purchase orders may be used to elect any options available under this contract, e.g., quantity, item, delivery date, payment method, but are subject to all terms and conditions of this contract. Purchase orders may be electronic. No particular form is required. An order placed pursuant to the purchasing card provision qualifies as a purchase order.

SURVIVAL OF OBLIGATIONS (JAN 2006): The Parties' rights and obligations which, by their nature, would continue beyond the termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration of this contract shall survive such termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration, including, but not limited to, the rights and obligations created by the following clauses: Indemnification - Third Party Claims, Intellectual Property Indemnification, and any provisions regarding warranty or audit.

TAXES (JAN 2006): Any tax the contractor may be required to collect or pay upon the sale, use or delivery of the products shall be paid by the State, and such sums shall be due and payable to the contractor upon acceptance. Any personal property taxes levied after delivery shall be paid by the State. It shall be solely the State's obligation, after payment to contractor, to challenge the applicability of any tax by negotiation with, or action against, the taxing authority. Contractor agrees to refund any tax collected, which is subsequently determined not to be proper and for which a refund has been paid to contractor by the taxing authority. In the event that the contractor fails to pay, or delays in paying, to any taxing authorities, sums paid by the State to contractor, contractor shall be liable to the State for any loss (such as the assessment of additional interest) caused by virtue of this failure or delay. Taxes based on Contractor's net income or assets shall be the sole responsibility of the contractor.

TERMINATION DUE TO UNAVAILABILITY OF FUNDS (JAN 2006): Payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal periods shall be subject to the availability and appropriation of funds therefor. When funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal period, the contract shall be canceled. In the event of a cancellation pursuant to this paragraph, contractor will be reimbursed the resulting unamortized, reasonably incurred,

nonrecurring costs. Contractor will not be reimbursed any costs amortized beyond the initial contract term.

THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARY (JAN 2006): This Contract is made solely and specifically among and for the benefit of the parties hereto, and their respective successors and assigns, and no other person will have any rights, interest, or claims hereunder or be entitled to any benefits under or on account of this Contract as a third party beneficiary or otherwise.

WAIVER (JAN 2006): The State does not waive any prior or subsequent breach of the terms of the Contract by making payments on the Contract, by failing to terminate the Contract for lack of performance, or by failing to strictly or promptly insist upon any term of the Contract. Only the Procurement Officer has actual authority to waive any of the State's rights under this Contract. Any waiver must be in writing.

Part VII Terms and Conditions – B. Special

DEFAULT (JAN 2006):

(a)(1) The State may, subject to paragraphs (c) and (d) of this clause, by written notice of default to the Contractor, terminate this contract in whole or in part if the Contractor fails to-

(i) Deliver the supplies or to perform the services within the time specified in this contract or any extension;

(ii) Make progress, so as to endanger performance of this contract (but see paragraph (a)(2) of this clause); or

(iii) Perform any of the other material provisions of this contract (but see paragraph (a)(2) of this clause).

(2) The State's right to terminate this contract under subdivisions (a)(1)(ii) and (1)(iii) of this clause, may be exercised if the Contractor does not cure such failure within 10 days (or more if authorized in writing by the Procurement Officer) after receipt of the notice from the Procurement Officer specifying the failure.

(b) If the State terminates this contract in whole or in part, it may acquire, under the terms and in the manner the Procurement Officer considers appropriate, supplies or services similar to those terminated, and the Contractor will be liable to the State for any excess costs for those supplies or services. However, the Contractor shall continue the work not terminated.

(c) Except for defaults of subcontractors at any tier, the Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs if the failure to perform the contract arises from causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor. Examples of such causes include (1) acts of God or of the public enemy, (2) acts of the State in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, (3) fires, (4) floods, (5) epidemics, (6) quarantine restrictions, (7) strikes, (8) freight embargoes, and (9) unusually severe weather. In each instance the failure to perform must be beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor.

(d) If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a subcontractor at any tier, and if the cause of the default is beyond the control of both the Contractor and subcontractor, and without the fault or negligence of either, the Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs for failure to perform, unless the subcontracted supplies or services were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time for the Contractor to meet the required delivery schedule.

(e) If this contract is terminated for default, the State may require the Contractor to transfer title and deliver to the State, as directed by the Procurement Officer, any (1) completed supplies, and (2) partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, plans, drawings, information, and contract rights (collectively referred to as "manufacturing materials" in this clause) that the Contractor has specifically produced or acquired for the terminated portion of this contract. Upon direction of the Procurement Officer, the Contractor shall also protect and preserve property in its possession in which the State has an interest.

(f) The State shall pay contract price for completed supplies delivered and accepted. The Contractor and Procurement Officer shall agree on the amount of payment for manufacturing materials delivered and accepted and for the protection and preservation of the property; if the parties fail to agree, the Procurement Officer shall set an amount subject to the Contractor's rights under the Disputes clause. Failure to agree will be a dispute under the Disputes clause. The State may withhold from these amounts any sum the Procurement Officer determines to be necessary to protect the State against loss because of outstanding liens or claims of former lien holders.

(g) If, after termination, it is determined that the Contractor was not in default, or that the default was excusable, the rights and obligations of the parties shall, if the contract contains a clause providing for termination for convenience of the State, be the same as if the termination had been issued for the convenience of the State. If, in the foregoing circumstances, this contract does not contain a clause providing for termination for convenience of the State, the contract shall be adjusted to compensate for such termination and the contract modified accordingly subject to the contractor's rights under the Disputes clause.

(h) The rights and remedies of the State in this clause are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.

