

MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE NOTES



1020 NE Loop 410, Suite 400 / San Antonio, Texas 78209
(210) 841-2800

PROJECT: SAWS Dos Rios Water Recycling Center: Digester Mixing & System Enhancements, Phase II

SAWS PROJ No.: 11-6502

SAWS Solicitation No.: B-12-053-MF

MEETING AT: SAWS – Dos Rios Water Recycling Center O&M Building Training Room

DATE: November 6, 2012

TIME: 10:00 am – 11:30 am

- I. Introductions were done for all those in attendance for the mandatory meeting including, SAWS, HDR Engineering, Gupta and Associates, Contractors, Suppliers and Vendors. See sign in sheet for those attending.
- II. The bid time and location where bids are due were presented.
 - a. Due: November 29, 2012 by 10:00 a.m.
 - b. Submit to: Contract Administration Division
2800 US Hwy 281 North
Customer Center Building, Suite 171
San Antonio, TX. 78218
- III. A project description was presented by HDR Engineering.

The work consists of construction of the Dos Rios Digester Mixing and System Enhancements, Phase II Project. This Project includes installation of a new pump mixing system for Digesters No. 1, 2 and 3; digester dome liner and crack repairs; digester cleaning; replacement of the gas system appurtenances; removal and replacement of valves around Digesters No. 1, 2, 3 and 4; rehabilitation of Sludge Holding Tank (SHT) No. 1; removal and replacement of the digester gas flare system; miscellaneous site grading; miscellaneous structural supports, footings, and foundations; and all associated electrical, instrumentation and control improvements for Digester Nos. 1, 2, 3, and 4.
- IV. HDR Engineering covered several items in the Contract Documents including:
 - a. Instructions to Bidders
 - b. Supplemental Conditions
 - c. Special Conditions
 - i. Sludge Sampling

- ii. Sludge Storage Tank No. 1 was cleaned in September 2012 as part of the Phase 1 Digester project. Per the contract documents, it will be cleaned again as part of Phase 2. Digester No. 4 is being cleaned as part of the Phase 1 Digester project.
- V. HDR Engineering covered that safety requirements must be adhered to in the project. Contractor shall comply with all requirements in the contract documents, including, but not limited to:
 - a. General Conditions, 5.3 CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES, item 1;
 - b. General Conditions, 5.29 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND PROGRAMS;
 - c. Special Conditions – Article 3
 - d. Specifications Section 01329 – Safety Plan
- VI. HDR Engineering covered that the Contractor shall comply with all requirements in the contract documents regarding underground utilities, including, but not limited to:
 - a. General Conditions, 5.17 PUBLIC UTILITIES
 - b. Supplemental Conditions, Article 5.17 – Public Utilities.
 - c. Special Conditions, Article 13 – Modification to General Condition Article V. This Article acknowledges that Appendix A includes reports of subsurface utility investigation that was performed during the design phase of the project. The information presented in Appendix A is “For Information Only.”
- VII. HDR Engineering discussed the Project Schedule.
 - a. The project duration is 660 calendar days.
 - b. Intermediate milestones dates are shown in Specification Section 01015 of the bid documents.
 - c. Specification Section 01015 -Sequence of Construction presents a sequence of work for the project. Only one digester or sludge holding tank can be taken offline at a time . Valve replacement, replacement of other appurtenances, liner and dome repair and electrical, instrumentation and control work shall be performed while the respective digester is offline.
 - d. Digester shutdowns shall be coordinated with SAWS Operations, per the contract documents.
 - e. There are isolation valves to be installed on hot water lines and combined sludge feed by-pass lines to be installed, per the bid documents. Coordination with SAWS Operation is required for this installation.
 - f. Digester gas flares will also be replaced as part of Phase 2. Temporary flares need to be installed so that the digesters have flaring capacity at all times.
 - g. Sludge Holding Tank No. 1 and Digester No. 4 cleaned as part of the Ph I Digester Project.
 - h. There are other ongoing construction projects at Dos Rios WRC. Contractor is responsible for coordinating with SAWS and the other construction projects.
- VIII. HDR Engineering covered the Bid Proposal.

- a. The Bid Packet Checklist should be reviewed by the contractor to make sure all necessary bid items are included in the bid packet. There are a couple of items that need to be added to the check list. These items will be added via addendum.
- b. Instructions to Bidders (p. 7 No. 23). Per the bid documents, additional information will be required from the apparent low bidder.
- c. Base bid includes 14 items on the bid proposal.
- d. There are 5 additive and deductive unit items included on the bid proposal.
- e. This project has Texas Water Development Board Funding. As a result, special inspections and site visits will take place, per the bid documents.
- f. Acknowledgement of Pollution Abatement Compliance is required, per the bid documents.
- g. Acknowledgement of all addendums is required by the contractor, according to the bid documents.

IX. It was noted that any questions during the bid period shall be submitted to Maria Franco at the contact information below.

Maria Franco, Contract Administrator
Fax: 210-233-4622
E-Mail: maria.franco@saws.org
Contracting Department
2800 US HWY 281 N. San Antonio, TX. 78212.

All questions must be submitted in writing by 4:00 P.M. local time on November 8, 2012. (This date was changed via Addendum No. 1)

X. SAWS presented information on the M/WBE requirements for the project. One of the items notes was the Good Faith Effort Affidavit.

XI. HDR Engineering covered several other items regarding the project.

- a. Project Permitting
 - i. City of San Antonio permitting has been completed. The contractor will be required to get the permit from the City and will be reimbursed per the bid documents.
 - ii. Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) permitting for plan and specification review has been completed.
 - iii. All other permits required for the construction of the project are the sole responsibility of the contractor.
- b. Regina Volosen will be the SAWS inspector.
- c. The only site visit allowed for this project is the pre-bid site visit, per the bid documents.
- d. The DRWRC is a functionally operating facility and has safety procedures in place in case of the chemical spills or leaks. The contractor should be aware of these procedures and coordinate with SAWS staff.

XII. **Questions.** All contractor questions shall be officially submitted to SAWS. The official response to all questions officially submitted will be answered via addendum. Below are some of the questions asked during the pre-bid conference.

- a. When does the equipment warranty start?
 - i. The equipment warranty is for a minimum 2 years and starts at the time the owner accepts the equipment.
- b. What's the engineers design intent for the rubber expansion joint for the valve replacement detail?
 - i. The rubber expansion joint in the valve replacement detail will be reevaluated for this application.
- c. How was the 850 dry tons of sludge calculated in the bid proposal? Does it include all digesters and the sludge holding tank?
 - i. Please officially submit this question to SAWS and an answer will be provided. It does include all digesters and the sludge holding tank.
- d. How long does it take to get the SAWS contractor badges?
 - i. The process is pretty quick. The contractor shall submit background checks for all employees to be onsite. The contractor will be required to visit SAWS headquarters to get their picture taken and pick up the badges.
- e. The bid documents states that a pump may be required to pump NPW supply into the digester. Can you provide the NPW supply locations, so we can determine how far we have to pump the water?
 - i. The location of the NPW water will be pointed out during the pre-bid site visit. The NPW is under pressure.

Note: Statements made at this pre-bid meeting cannot change the Contract Documents. Only Addenda can change the Contract Documents. Only those General Contractors who attended this mandatory Pre-Bid Conference may submit a Bid Proposal.