

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
ORDER FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES No. A3901
FIBER OPTIC MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES**

Responses to Inquiries

Inquiry: Please confirm whether any fiber plant inside buildings and/or communication rooms is included in the scope of work. If so, what buildings are included.

Response: Each of our individual toll plazas, maintenance district buildings, State Police Barracks, and other facility buildings are connected via fiber lateral cables from our mainline backbone system. All end point lateral cables feed to inside building IT rooms. Overall, there are approximately 185+ individual laterals feeding to these buildings throughout the NJTP, Garden State Parkway, Atlantic City Expressway, and various portions of NJDOT roadways.

The breakdown would be as follows:

GSP Facilities: Approximately eighty-two (82) individual fiber laterals

NJTP Facilities: Approximately eighty-two (82) individual fiber laterals

ACE / NJDOT Route 42: Approximately twenty-two (22) individual fiber laterals

Inquiry: What is the physical limit of responsibility along the fiber plant with respect to entry and/or routing in buildings?

Response: Responsibility shall be from the mainline backbone system to the demarcation lateral point which is typically located in a network rack inside the IT room of each building.

Inquiry: Please confirm whether the Contract Bond value will be based upon the Core Service value only, or the Core Service plus additional Repair/Relocate/Install Services allocation value.

Response: Contract Bond will be based on the Total Contract Amount.

Inquiry: Will NJTA allow and/or consider requested revisions to the OPS Agreement?

Response: No, The Authority will not consider revisions to the OPS Agreement.

Inquiry: **Reference – Submission Requirements for Technical and Fee Proposals, page 3 of 47.**

The RFP states a due date for the Technical and Fee Proposals no later than 2 p.m. on January 10, 2022. We received the RFP document early last week with a postmark date of December 20, 2021. Based on the limited timeframe due to the holiday schedule and receipt, we respectfully request a two-week extension on the Technical and Fee Proposals submission. This additional time will provide the ability to assess responses to questions received on January 6, 2022 and ascertain required documents such as bid bond and surety submission.

Response: See Addendum No. 1 issued on January 5, 2022 as it includes new procurement schedule dates. The submission of Technical and Fee Proposals has been extended to January 21, 2022 as noted in the Addendum.

Inquiry: **Reference – Firm Qualifications and Experience, page 2 of 27.**

The table specifies the firm must have a New Jersey Professional Engineer to review, approve and seal design documents as well as a Project Manager that is a Certified Project Manager Professional (PMP). Later in Subsection A1 Item 1b (page 7 of 47), the RFP states the Project Manager shall be a Professional Engineer. Please clarify that the two requirements in the table are the qualifications for personnel and are separate resources.

Response: Yes, they can be separate resources as long as the firm utilizes a licensed New Jersey Professional Engineer (NJPE) to approve, review and sign plans when such submittals are required. The Project Manager is not required to be a licensed NJPE but should have extensive experience in managing large scale public / private sector roadway engineering projects.

Inquiry: **Reference – Submission Requirements for Technical and Fee Proposals, page 3 of 47.**

In the fourth paragraph of this section, the Request for Proposals (“RFP”) states, “All required submissions are to be uploaded as one PDF document to the appropriate folder for the submission type (e.g., Technical Proposal) you will also be required to use a specific naming convention when uploading documents (e.g., OPS No. A3901_Technical_Firm Name).” Will the Authority accept a separate zipped folder or separate PDFs of our firm’s financial statements? These audited documents are protected from editing and cannot be combined with other PDFs. If so, is there a specific naming convention we should use?

Response: The Authority will accept separate PDFs of the firm’s financial statements as part of the Technical Proposal submission.

Inquiry: Reference Subsection A3 – Scope of Services, Introduction (page 13 of 47).

The RFP states, "The fiber plant extends throughout the New Jersey Turnpike, Garden State Parkway, Atlantic City Expressway, and various sections of New Jersey Department of Transportation highways." In Exhibit A (pages 39-41), the RFP details Route 42 (Blackhorse Pike), Milepost 6.3 - 13.2, as the New Jersey Department of Transportation Highway. Is this the only New Jersey Department of Transportation roadway where fiber plant is part of the contract?

Response: The specific NJDOT roadways the firm will be required to perform such work are on Route 70; Route 38; Interstate 195; Interstate 295; Route 1; and various County roads. The total miles along these roadways are approximately fifty-eight (58) miles. NJTA will provide as-builts and other specific roadway sections once firm is selected.

Inquiry: Page 2 of 47, Firm Qualifications and Experience, the fifth line of the table states, "A New Jersey Professional Engineer must be available to review, approve and seal design documents as needed". However, on page 7 of 47 section b, Experience of the Firm on Similar Projects states "Unless otherwise noted, the Project Manager shall be a licensed Professional Engineer." Please confirm that the PM does not need to be a licensed Professional Engineer if the firm has a New Jersey Professional Engineer available?

Response: Yes, they can be separate resources as long as the firm utilizes a licensed New Jersey Professional Engineer(NJPE) to approve , review and sign plans when such submittals are required. The project manager is not required to be a licensed NJPE but should have extensive experience in managing large scale public / private sector roadway engineering projects.

Inquiry: Page 38 of 47, Subsection B14, Applicable Standard Documentation - The RFP lists the following Items:

1. NJTA 2016 Standard Specifications
2. NJTA 2004 Standard Supplementary Specifications - Section 108.04 Payments for Cost-Plus Work"

We note that there is a Section 108.04 Payments for Cost Plus Work in the NJTA 2016 Standard Specifications. Shouldn't the 2016 document supersede the 2004 Supplementary Specifications? If not please provide a copy of the NJTA 2004 Standard Supplementary Specifications - Section 108.04 Payments for Cost-Plus Work as we can only find the 2016 document on the NJTA website.

Response: All reference should read 2016 Supplementary Specification Subsection 108.04 "Payments for Cost-Plus Work".

Inquiry: Page 18 of 47, Compensation for Emergency Restoration and Repair states, "The Authority will pay the Firm for all associated repair costs on a "time and material basis" as defined in Subsection 108.04. Payments for Cost-Plus Work, of the Standard Supplementary Specifications which is incorporated herein to this RFP." This same section of the RFP further states, "A markup of 5% will be allowed to cover the cost of overhead and profit for any such materials utilized." However, Subsection 108.04 Payments for Cost-Plus Work, of the Standard Supplementary Specifications states:

"(D) OVERHEAD.

Ten (10) percent of the cost of Labor (A), Materials (B) and Insurance (C), and five (5) percent of the cost of Equipment and Plant (E) and Sublet Work (I) shall be added as full compensation for all general superintendents (other than Foremen), administration and overhead, bonding expenses, general safety items and equipment including personal protection equipment (PPE) and the use of small tools."

and:

"(F) PROFIT.

Ten (10) percent of the cost of Labor and Materials as described above, as full compensation for profit and for all other items of cost and expense to the Contractor not specifically provided for herein."

Please confirm the Firm will be allowed a 10% mark-up for overhead and a 10% mark-up for profit on all materials used for emergency restoration and repair as stated in Subsection 108.04.

Response: Payment will be made in accordance with Subsection 108.04.

Inquiry: Page 42 of 47, Exhibit B, Historical Data, The fourth column of the table is labelled "Total "Emergency" Mark-Out NJ One Call Tickets (Subset of Total Mark-Out)". "Total Mark-out" is third column of the table. The quantities in columns 3, 4 and 5 sum to the quantity in column 2, "Total NJ One Call Tickets". As such it seems that column 4 is a subset of column 3 not column 2. Please confirm.

Response: Confirmed. Column 4 is a subset of column 3, not column 2.

Inquiry: The transmittal letter dated December 17, 2021 state "Please submit your firm's Technical and Fee Proposals, both electronically and in hard copy,". The Addendum 0001 issued January 5, 2022 states "Fee Proposals shall be submitted to Jennifer Kanski via e-mail at kanski@njta.com with the subject line "OPS No. A3901 – Fee Proposal. Hard copies will not be accepted." Our assumption is the Fee proposal is to be submitted electronically only. Is our assumption correct?

Response: Yes. Fee proposal is to be submitted electronically only.

Inquiry: Please confirm that the 3% good faith effort DVOB utilization and the 25% good faith effort for SBE utilization apply only to the Core Services of the contract and the base period of performance (3 years)?

Response: No. The DVOB and SBE Good Faith efforts are required for the entire Contract.

Inquiry: Under Subsection A1, Item 4, the RFP did not include an attachment to identify all Authority projects on which the consultant is currently working or have been completed (closed out) within the previous 5-year period. Please indicate if a form will be provided or if the consultant should create a form. If we are to provide the form, please confirm that a listing of projects that includes project title, \$ value, period of performance, and general scope is sufficient to meet this requirement.

Response: As noted on Page 10 of the RFP “This form can be found on the Authority’s website under Doing Business, Engineering Professional Services, Supplemental Forms”.

Inquiry: Subsection A1, Item 4. Please indicate whether this section requires a listing of each individual project under an OPS contract along with other stand-alone projects or simply a listing of overall contracts (not individual projects) plus stand-alone projects.

Response: Provide a list of overall contracts plus stand-alone projects. Individual projects within a contract need not be identified.

Inquiry: Subsection A1—please confirm the 25-page limitation only applies to 1a-1g and the remaining items (2-17) are excluded from this limitation.

Response: Exclusions to the twenty-five (25) page limit are identified on Pages 10 and 11 of the RFP.