



State of New Jersey

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Questions Posed to the Highlands Council by Potential Respondents to the RFP for Highlands Region Functional Ecosystem Valuation Model and Forest Conservation Guidance June 10, 2013

Question #1

Given the need to assemble a qualified team from within our firm and using other expert consultants, we want to ask if the Council can provide an estimate of the level of funding available to complete the scope of work as outlined in the RFP so that we can better tailor and prioritize the tasks to be performed to meet the Council's requirements?

Response #1

Please refer to RFP Section III., RFP Submittal Requirements, C. Rate Schedule and Budget 2. which states that the project budget is to be based on the Scope of Services set forth in the RFP. No firm estimate of funding has as yet been established by the Council.

Question #2

RFP, in Appendix D – Contract Standard Terms and Conditions, states that those standard terms and conditions will be part of the contract, “unless specifically and expressly modified by reference in the Council request or in a writing executed by the Executive Director of the Council or designee thereof.” Is the Highlands Council is open to discussion and potential revisions to certain of the standard terms and conditions with their selected firm?

Response #2

Any requests for potential revisions to the terms and conditions set forth in Appendix D or any other exceptions taken should be included with the RFP response document and set forth in detail. Specific wording changes to each particular section of Appendix D and not general conceptual changes must be submitted in order to be considered. Respondents are advised further that the Highlands Council may consider the extent and number of requested modifications to Appendix D in its Team selection process. Similarly, selection of a particular Team that has requested modifications does not mean that the Highlands Council has agreed to the requested changes. As set forth in Section IV., General Requirements and Information, J. of the RFP, terms and conditions are subject to contract negotiations. Any modifications the Council agrees to will be set forth in the final contract with the selected team.

Question #3

A member of a team that wishes to submit a proposal in response to the RFP for Highlands Region Functional Ecosystem Valuation Model and Forest Conservation Guidance, is seeking more information about the RFP. The team would like to know what the Highlands Council's goals and expectations are of the RFP and the teams making proposals. The question posed is whether the Highlands Council is going to conduct a proposal briefing session for teams interested in responding to the RFP?

Response #3

At this time, the Highlands Council has no plans to schedule a proposal briefing session for teams interested in responding to the RFP. If one is scheduled, the Council will notify all respondents posing questions, by email. Additionally, notice of any proposal briefing session will be posted on the Highlands Council website, www.highlands.state.nj.us

With respect to a team's inquiry seeking more information about the RFP and the Highlands Council's goals and expectations of the RFP and teams making proposals, please refer to the RFP itself. Should a team have any specific questions, pursuant to Section IV. C., please contact Kim Ball Kaiser at kim.kaiser@highlands.state.nj.us, in writing with such questions and supporting information; the Highlands Council cannot respond to questions that are vague or hypothetical.

Question #4

The RFP states that the Team must be authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey and provide proof before performing work under the awarded contract. Does this requirement to provide a valid NJ business registration at the time awarding the contract only apply to the prime contractor or to the prime contractor and their subcontractors?

Response #4

Section IV., General Requirements and Information, H. of the RFP states that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:32-44, the selected Team must provide proof of valid business registration with the Division of Revenue in the Department of Treasury prior to the award of any contract. This provision applies to the prime contractor as well as any subcontractor.

Complete RFP can be found at the link below.

http://www.state.nj.us/njhighlands/planconformance/rfps/RFP_EcosystemValuationModel_and_ForestConservationGuidance.pdf