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Addendum One / RFP 10-1480

RFP 10-1480
ANALYTICAL LABORATORY SERVICES

The following questions were submitted on this solicitation. In the interest of fairness the questions and answers are being provided to all interested proposers.

Q: Can you provide us with the prices included in Metro's current contract for analytical laboratory services?
A: Our current contract is with Test America. A copy of this contract is available by making a public records request through Procurement Services.

Q: Subcontracting out analyses that we can't perform (example TOC by 9060) as well as due to short hold (specifically E coli and maybe Nitrate, Nitrite and O-Phos). Do they allow outside the network and if so, do we need to submit all their QA qualifications (QAM, COI, etc)
A: It is understood by Metro that, depending on a Contractor's technical capability, or on circumstances, some subcontracting may be required. Proposals must include the information about subcontractors requested in Section VII.B.1 of the RFP. In addition, consistent with Section VII.B.3, the proposer's quality assurance program must include "subcontracting policies and standards".

Q: Late Penalty Fees - is this negotiable? Would the lab incur the penalty due to instrument failure or matrix issues that is out of the labs control?
A: The schedule of invoice deductions shown in item #8 of the Scope of Work is not negotiable, although Metro reserves the right to waive any deduction if it determines that such action is appropriate based on review of all relevant information.

Q: Would it be possible to get the reporting limits that have been historically provided under the Groundwater and Stormwater DEQ permits?
A: There is not a list of required detection and reporting limits. In our experience, the reporting limits vary depending on sample conditions and analytical circumstances. Therefore we are looking to have our testing performed within standard industry practices, and in accordance with the requirements stated in our RFP.

Q: You request that Standard Operating Procedures for the methods quoted be included with the proposal. This will amount to hundreds of pages in the addendum. Instead, can we provide a list of SOPs? Of course we will be happy to allow Metro to examine any particular SOPs of interest.
A: In Section VII.B.3 of the RFP proposers are asked to briefly describe the firm's quality assurance goals -- which should be included in the "Approach/Project Work Plan" narrative – and to provide a quality assurance program (including SOPs for methods quoted) -- which should be included in the proposal as an appendix, preferably submitted on compact disk.

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