

Port of Gulfport Restoration Program

3rd Party EIS

Procurement 11-015

Questions Received as of September 15, 2010

Questions Received After RFQ Distribution

1. Can a consultant who currently has a PSA with MSPA in the PGR program be selected as the prime consultant?

Consultants currently having a Profession Services Agreement (PSA) or PSA subcontract with the MSPA are not precluded from proposing on new RFQs. The exception to this is if a conflict of interest exists between the consultant and the proposed tasks.

Any consultant or sub-consultant should provide a written request for an opinion from MSPA if they are considering proposing on new work.

2. Can the consultant who currently has a PSA with MSPA in the PGR program be a sub-consultant under a prime proposer who does not yet have a PGRP PSA with MSPA?

Consultants currently having a Profession Services Agreement (PSA) or PSA subcontract with the MSPA are not precluded from proposing on new RFQs. The exception to this is if a conflict of interest exists between the consultant and the proposed tasks.

Any consultant or sub-consultant should provide a written request for an opinion from MSPA if they are considering proposing on new work.

3. There is a conflict with the due date. The RFQ says 9/17/2010 and the Port of the Future email says 9/20/2010. Which one is it?

The legal notice date is the correct date, September 20, 2010.

4. Can you please confirm what is meant by item 10 in the "Conditions for Participation" that states "any entity responding as a Joint Venture or partnership will not be considered for selection"? Does this mean large businesses are not allowed to team in a prime/sub arrangement? Although USACE does not have a small business component under this procurement, MSPA does (in the "Submittal Scoring Criteria", item 5 designates 10 points of the criteria are for "Local, minority-owned, small, women-owned, veteran-owned, or otherwise designated as a disadvantaged business participation and Mentoring"), so it is assumed that teaming arrangements with small businesses (particularly in the categories mentioned) are encouraged?

This condition is referring to a Joint Venture formed solely for this RFQ; and relates only to Joint Ventures. There is no prohibition on prime/sub arrangements. Teaming through subcontracting with "Local, minority-owned, small, women-owned, veteran-owned, or otherwise designated as a disadvantaged business participation and Mentoring") is encouraged and will be considered in the submittal evaluation as explained in Submittal Scoring Criteria: paragraph 5.

5. The last sentence of the third paragraph of Page 5 of the RFQ states that "Some of the information needed to describe the existing conditions will be collected by other MSPA consultants and supplied to USACE and the EIS Consultant." Is there specific information/data that is being referenced? If so, is there guidance available as to what types of information/data may have been or will be collected by other consultants for this EIS?

It is anticipated that one possible area of information provided will be marine studies to characterize the existing conditions of the proposed project area. This will be conducted by other MSPA consultants in 2011. There will probably be other areas not identified at this time.

6. In order for our staff and potential team members to be able to conduct the proper planning and resource allocation with respect to scheduling in anticipation of being selected for this EIS, is there any guidance that can be provided with respect to a proposed schedule/timeframe for the following project milestones:

- A. Shortlist of Finalists from the contractors that respond to the RFQ: **September 22**
- B. Interviews/Presentations of the shortlisted finalists to the MSPA and/or USACE: **No interviews/presentations are currently planned.**
- C. Final Selection of successful contractor: **October 7**
- D. Award of contract/Notice to Proceed for professional services: **October 30**

7. The RFQ states that the total expected project length will be approximately 3 years. However, if a preliminary schedule has been derived for any or all of the above phases, it would be helpful for the submitting teams to understand what is to be forthcoming with respect to the project schedule.

The overall project schedule has not been developed other than assuming an overall duration of 3 years commencing with the award of a contract and a Notice to Proceed.