

RFQ Questions and Clarifications - December 9, 2009

Item Number	RFQ Section	Page	Topic	Date Initiated	Comment/Question	Response Date	Response
1	7.2	16	Performance History	09/24/09	Please clarify the intent of this section with respect to the number of projects to be profiled. Paragraph number three on page 16 indicates that no more than three projects shall be included. Is it the intent that no more than three projects be included for the entire team or is this to be interpreted as three projects maximum for each major participant on a team? It may be difficult to show a teams depth of knowledge with only three projects. It is also difficult for teams with three or more major participants to exhibit project experience of all team members when limited to a total of three projects. Would WSDOT consider a larger number of projects, say not more then 3 per major participate, with at least one project for each major participant?	10/02/09	See Addendum #1
2	7.4	18	Key Personnel	09/30/09	Key Personnel Requirements (Page 18) requests three references for three different projects for each of the Key Personnel. It also states that projects corresponding to each individual should be complete. Question: Some of our key personnel are currently working on ongoing relevant projects that will not be completed by the time of SOQ submission. Can references be included for ongoing work?	10/13/09	WSDOT will accept and evaluate reference projects that are not complete.
3	7.4	19	Key Personnel	09/30/09	Tunnel Systems Manager: What is the intent of the qualifications for the Tunnel Systems Manager? The RFP states that the Tunnel Systems Manager is responsible for leading the design as well as the installation, commissioning and integration of the tunnel and internal highway systems. Are you looking more for a design team member or a Contractor/Supplier manager to lead this effort? Will the Tunnel Systems specification be more prescriptive or performance.	10/02/09	WSDOT has no preference for the employer of the Tunnel Systems Manager. The individual will be evaluated upon his/her experience in similar roles on projects of similar complexity.
4	7.4	19 and 20	Key Personnel	09/24/09	The specific requirements of the Deputy Project Manager and the Construction Manager appear to be very similar. Please clarify the intent of the specific responsibilities of these two positions. Is there an opportunity to combine these positions into a single position?	10/02/09	The Deputy Project Manager is intended to be a deputy to the Project Manager with responsibility for successful delivery of the entire project including design, construction, and coordination with other stakeholders, other projects etc. The Construction Manager is only intended to be responsible for aspects of the Work specifically related to the construction. Combination of these positions is not acceptable in the SOQ.
5				09/30/09	Will WSDOT make available to prospective submitters the following executable computer applications files? -Soil boring data files – typically Gint files -Surface and roadway modeling files – InRoads surfaces, alignments, template libraries and roadway libraries -Survey data files -Primary structure computer aided drawing (CAD) files depicting overall object lines – typically .dgn or .dwg files.	10/02/09	It is WSDOT's intent to release executable computer applications files with the RFP.
6	5.1	10	Major Participants	10/08/09	In the case of a partnership, joint-venture, limited liability company or other form of association, is the partnership/joint venture considered one Major Participant or is each member of the partnership/joint venture a Major Participant.	10/13/09	Each general partner, joint-venture member, or member, of the Submitter is considered a Major Participant.

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7	Addendum 1	Item 2	Reference Projects	10/08/09	The addendum states, "Reference projects shall include major tunneling projects in soft ground using pressurized face TBMs." and "At least one, and not more than three, reference projects shall be provided for each Major Participant." Is it required that all Major Participants must have experience on major tunneling projects in soft ground using pressurized face TBMs?	11/17/09	No, it is not required that all Major Participants have experience on major tunneling projects in soft ground. With regard to the Performance History, the minimum requirement to be short-listed for this project is that the Submitter, or at least one general partner, joint-venture member, or member of the Submitter, shall have experience in a key role in the execution of at least one major tunneling project in soft ground using a pressurized face TBMs, and that project shall include a tunnel diameter of at least 30-feet. The SOQ will be scored more favorably based upon the extent the Submitter has demonstrated experience on multiple projects with the preferred characteristics listed in Addendum 1, Item 2, and to the extent that this experience is demonstrated throughout the Submitter's team. See Addendum #5.
8	7.4	18 - 21	Key Personnel	10/08/09	In Section 7.4, Key Personnel Requirements, 9 of the 13 key positions "must/shall have no less than 15 years of experience", and the Project Manager "must have no less than 20 years" of experience. Is the years of experience a pass/fail test for each position? If the individual has slightly less than the minimum requirement, but is otherwise highly qualified to fill that position, would we receive zero points for that position? Or, perhaps, would our SOQ be considered nonresponsive for failing to meet the minimum? Our goal is to present the very best qualified individuals for each position; in some cases the best qualified person may have less than the minimum specified.	11/17/09	The years of experience will not be evaluated on a pass/fail basis. It is anticipated that an individual with slightly less than the minimum requirement for years of experience, but who is otherwise highly qualified to fill that position, would score appreciably above zero. In this case, the SOQ would not be considered nonresponsive. See Addenda #3 and #5.
9	3.0	3	Procurement Process	10/13/09	This section indicates that "evaluation scores used to determine the short-list will not be carried forward into the RFP scoring". However, the RFQ does imply the importance of both key personnel and project experience. We concur with the importance of both the people and the projects and would like to understand how the "best value" in the proposal phase accounts for people and projects if qualifications scoring is not carried forward.	10/15/09	The experience and qualifications of the Key Personnel and the Proposer's team will be considered in the determination of the Best Value Proposal. The ITP will identify how those elements should be portrayed in the Proposals and how that information will be considered in the determination of the Best Value Proposal.
10	7.4	18	Key Personnel	10/13/09	This section 7.4 defines the requirements to include in the Statement of Qualifications as "three references from different projects" for each key personnel. It appears no other information is required in section 4 of the SOQ. Technical information concerning key personnel is to be included in Appendix E of the SOQ. Please clarify what is to be included in the 13 page limit for Section 4 other than references or if the page limit will be revised.	10/15/09	See Addendum #2.
11	4.0	8	Project Scope	10/13/09	The scope of the project identified in RFQ section 4, page 8, second bullet specifies "design and construction of ventilation buildings". Considering WSDOT has recently procured Architectural Services for the Tunnel, please clarify the scope of the recent procurement versus the scope envisioned for the Design-Build Contract.	10/15/09	The architectural services contract currently underway is intended to develop a conceptual design for the ventilation buildings and the design and construction criteria for the Design-Build contract. Under this contract WSDOT will complete two architectural reviews with the Seattle Design Commission which will inform the conceptual design and criteria noted above. The Design-Builder will provide the final design and construction of the buildings including coordination with the City of Seattle as needed.

Highlighted cells indicate that new information is provided.

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12	7.4	19	Key Personnel	11/03/09	In addendum no. 3, requirement for Deputy Project Manager, you state "replace the fourth sentence". We believe this should state "replace the fifth sentence". Please confirm	11/06/09	You are correct. Addendum #3, Item #3 replaces the fifth sentence under Deputy Project Manager. Not the fourth sentence as indicated in the Addendum.
13	7.3	17	Management Plan	11/03/09	We want to include a matrix for each the Project Challenges and the Project Risks in the Management Plan (approx. 4 pages each). Please advise if these pages will be counted as part of the 21 pages limit	11/06/09	A matrix presentation of the "Project challenges" and "significant risks" in response to the first and second bullets under Management Plan item b. would count toward the page limit.
14	7.4	18	Key Personnel	11/04/09	Addendum #2 clarified that key personnel resumes are to be included in section 4 of the SOQ. The addendum indicates that, "up to three reference projects" may be included. We interpret this to mean that up to three projects may be described in some detail and shall have references provided, but that additional projects may be listed without references within the three page limit that further demonstrates a key personnel's total years of experience and qualifications. Please clarify that this is the intent of this section.	11/06/09	The approach you describe is acceptable.
15	7.6.2	21	Financial Information	11/09/09	Please explain who exactly needs to provide a letter from the Surety Companies (Bonding). The RFQ states the "Submitter". If the "Submitter" is a (or will be a Joint Venture), does every member of the JV have to provide such letter in the full amount described in the RFQ or is it sufficient for the JV Leader to provide such letter?	11/10/09	Not every member of the JV is required to submit a surety letter. The surety letter is submitted by the Submitter entity on behalf of the Submitter entity regardless of whether the Submitter entity is formally created at the time of the SOQ.
16	7.6.2	21	Financial Information	11/09/09	Does anyone outside the JV (e.g. the Lead Designer as a Major Participant) have to provide bonding information as well?	11/10/09	No one outside of the JV is required to provide bonding information.
17	Addendum 6			12/09/09	Where do you want the required letter to be sent? Is it the Olympia address where the SoQ went to?	12/09/09	Submit Appendix B to the same address as the original SOQ no later than 4:00 PM on December 15, 2009. See Section 6.1 of the RFQ as amended by Addendum #1.
19	Addendum 6			12/09/09	Do you need the original letter by that date or would a fax / e-mail suffice with the original letter to follow as soon as possible after that?	12/09/09	Submit the original letter no later than 4:00 PM on December 15, 2009. No copies are required.