



## Questions & Answers #1

### TORFP #F50B4400106

#### Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN) Technical Specialist

September 9, 2014

The following questions for the above referenced TORFP were received by e-mail, are answered and will be posted for all prospective Offerors. The statements and interpretations contained in the following responses to questions are not binding to the State unless the TORFP is expressly amended. Nothing in the State's response to these questions is to be construed as agreement to or acceptance by the State of any statement or interpretation on the part of the Offeror asking the question.

Ladies/Gentlemen:

1. Are there any incumbents? If yes, then please list the names.

**Response: There is no incumbent.**

2. Will it be awarded to a single company or multiple companies?

**Response: The contract will be awarded to a single company.**

3. How many candidates can be submitted by one company?

**Response: Master Contractors shall propose exactly one (1) named resource.**

4. We respectfully request that the TORFP be opened up to Functional Area 1 - Enterprise Service Provider (ESP) contractors. This area is defined as follows under the CATS+ contract description:

"Services to ensure that information systems are designed to capitalize on agency architectures and State IT standards, provide interoperability with other systems and networks, be reliable and maintainable, and make the most cost-effective use of commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) technology and agency-wide and government-wide resources."



These services are directly applicable to NPSBN program. As the State has pointed out in its TORFP, the law that established FirstNet requires it to consult with regional, state, tribal and local jurisdictions to ensure that the FirstNet network is designed to meet the needs of public safety across the country.

We note that the contractor's stated duties and responsibilities under Section 2.6.3 of the TORFP, include the following items which closely align with the described services for Functional Area 1:

- A. The resource shall work with representatives of state and local governments in the analysis of plans for deployment including potential use of State and local assets for network backbone, coverage requirements, uplink and downlink requirements, resiliency, redundancy and any technical issues the State must consider.
- B. The resource shall assist with planning for the integration of legacy systems that may be included as elements of the NPSBN.
- C. The resource shall provide coverage predictions, review and analysis of proposed NPSBN coverage based upon data from FirstNet, vendors, state, federal, and other sources of knowledge.
- D. The resource shall serve as Maryland's technical advisor relative to the deployment of NPSBN.
- E. The resource shall provide advice and guidance on the impact of regulatory and industry issues related to deployment of NPSBN.
- F. The resource shall interface with technical broadband personnel in FirstNet, private industry, state and local governments and translate technical information into terms and descriptions understood by non-technical governmental administrative personnel.
- G. The resource shall assist in the project management of the NPSBN, and perform planning and coordination activities as assigned.

**Response: DoIT respectfully denies the request. This TORFP is open to Functional Area 10 – IT Management Consulting Services only.**

- 5. Section 2.9.1 refers to "demonstrated experience providing technical support and expertise to Public Safety Broadband Networks and/or commercial cellular networks using all of: LTE standards; 4G technology; Radio Access Network devices (RAN); as well as fiber and microwave used for backhaul support services to U.S. based commercial or government entities..." and requires the engagement to be at least one year in length, yet Section 2.9.2



refers to the proposed resource having identical experience for a period of five years. We suggest that these requirements are not consistent and that the requirement to have five years of experience with LTE networks in support of U.S. based commercial or government entities is not realistic since LTE deployments within the U.S. did not begin until 2010. Please clarify the experience requirement.

**Response: See Amendment #1.**

6. Section 2.6.1 refers to a total of six deliverables, yet only five are detailed in Section 2.8.4. Please confirm or clarify if Section 2.6.1.5 should refer to deliverable in 2.8.4.3 and Section 2.6.1.6 should refer to deliverable item in 2.8.4.5.

**Response: See Amendment #1.**

7. Section 2.1 refers to "the Middle Class Tax Relief and Jobs Creation Bill (Title IV)". Please confirm that this was meant to refer to Title VI.

**Response: See Amendment #1.**

8. Section 2.6.3: Item I) is a repeat of Item B); Item J) is a repeat of Item D); Item K) is a repeat of Item F).

**Response: See Amendment #1.**

9. Section 2.8.4.3: Suggest the phrase "FirstNet's plans to ingrate legacy systems" was meant to say "FirstNet's plans to integrate legacy systems".

**Response: See Amendment #1.**

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