Questions & Answers #1

TORFP #F50B4400029

MARYLAND STATEWIDE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM (700MHz)

April 23, 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. The solicitation asks for someone that has 5+ years experience with $20 million projects—however it is a set aside—and the Services threshold for the SBR in MD list at a $10 million annualized level. Is this an error? Can you please confirm the dollar amount for past experience of projects? Is it in fact $20 million, or will the number be lowered to meet the MD $10 million annualized level?

Response: We realize that Small Businesses would not have been the "Prime" on most Statewide IT projects. The requirement was for the overall project value, not just the SBR component. Refer to Section 2.9.1.

Given the size and complexity of these systems, a minimum of five years’ experience is required.

2. Although the Subject Line Referenced TORFP is slated as Small Business Reserve (SBR), the Company Minimum Qualifications are quite restricted given the requirement is: Five (5) years’ experience in providing technical resources or IT project for Statewide deployment or with a contract value over $200 million. As most Small Businesses don't have contracts where contract value exceeds $200 million nor do they always meet the five years experience, we ask that this requirement be moved altogether?

Response: Refer to Response #1.
3. We found one more requirement at the Resource Level that is extremely restrictive and heavily favors the incumbent. Specifically, the requirement is as follows: Have a current Motorola P-25 Astro Digital 700 MHz system certification. In our brief research, we were only able to find fewer than 100 individuals nationwide who has had this certification, which is basic usage of the Motorola's portable radio (walkie-talkie) system. Further, we were only able to find 2 individuals in all of the state of Maryland with this certification and one of those individuals is a law enforcement official. Lastly, a walkie-talkie system certification is not a typical Project Manager Certification. With all that said, can this requirement be removed as again, it heavily favors the incumbent?

**Response:** No, this requirement will not be removed. See also Response #4.

4. Can you please tell us who is the incumbent? Can you also give us the current CATS II or CATS I TORFP number that this was originally awarded under?

**Response:** There is no current incumbent. It is a new position(s) to provide additional support for the agencies involved.

5. Do we need to submit a Astro System Training certificate along with the response? Often times there is no certificate provided for this training class.

**Response:** If a certificate is unavailable, provide the date the certification was received. In addition, provide DoIT with contact information for verification. Refer to Amendment #1 or Page 23 of the TORFP, as amended.

6. Can you provide any further clarification as to what labor category should be used for the additional 3,000 hours. Any suggestions as to required skill set will be helpful.

**Response:** Refer to Section 2.1 and Attachment 1.