

**PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO STATE ROUTE 9**  
From US 278/State Route 6 near Pontotoc to US 78 Near Sherman  
Pontotoc County, Mississippi  
**State Project No. SP-2833-00(002)/105094-001000**

**QUESTIONS RECEIVED AS OF NOVEMBER 19, 2010**

**1. Will the short list of contractors be posted on the design build website, sometime after the approx date of Jan 12, 2011?**

A list of the selected and non-selected Responders will be posted on the SR 9 Design-Build Website shortly after the January 12, 2011 notification deadline.

**2. We are in the process of obtaining engineering licenses for few individuals and our firm from the Mississippi board. The Mississippi board informed us that the licenses will not be processed until mid to end of January 2011. Will this disqualify us as lead engineer and as the lead engineering firm from the selection process for this design build contract? Section IV "Experience and Qualifications of Personnel", item 1, of the RFQ document clarifies that obtaining licenses according to State and local laws are future requirements. By what stage of the selection process, the individuals and firm need to be registered to qualify for this project.**

The requirement to demonstrate engineering licenses for individuals and firms will be made during the Request for Proposal (RFP) stage. The RFP will specifically include instructions for submittal of information documenting compliance. For the RFQ submittal, demonstration of licensure is not required, however, it would be beneficial to demonstrate your ability to become licensed in Mississippi and the efforts made for licensure to date. Note - Responses to the RFP that have engineers that do not meet the PE requirements will be considered non-responsive and ineligible for a stipend.

**3. Is it intended for the Responder or Prime Construction Contractor to also use SF 330 to provide its' response to Past Performance?**

The Responder or Prime Construction Contractor may choose to use the SF 330 to provide responses to Past Performance, but it is not necessary. A table with the

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required information is sufficient in order to comply with the 25 page limitation for the submittal. More detailed project descriptions may be included as an appendix to the submittal, however, only the information provided in the initial 25 page submittal will be used for the evaluation. In addition, the SF 330 Part II submittals for the Engineering Firm(s) will not be counted as part of the 25 page limit.

**4. Section III on p. 7 of the RFQ addresses the Approach to Environmental Compliance. The approach to dealing with the anticipated total acreage of area disturbed is a part of what the responder is to outline and address. In Question 6 of the posted Project Questions, it was mentioned that Sections 107.22.2 and 107.22.4 of the Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction are expected to be modified. It was stated that it was expected that an area larger than the 750,000 s.f. cited in these sections would be allowed. Has a decision been made on this issue? The allowable area will have significant impacts on the construction of the project.**

The Design-Build Team will be allowed maximum flexibility as long as the project stays in compliance with the stormwater discharge permit requirements. The Design-Build Team will have the opportunity to negotiate a new stormwater discharge permit if desired.

**5. On p. 4 under the Scope, it is noted that should the D-B team choose to design different bridge structures than those provided by MDOT, then there is specific information that will be required. It is assumed that this will be addressed by teams that are short-listed in the RFP stage since plans are not now available. Is this a correct assumption?**

Yes, if new bridges are proposed, it is not required at this RFQ stage, but will be addressed in the RFP stage.

#### **QUESTIONS RECEIVED AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2010**

**6. Can the quality control manager position be divided into two positions: Design Quality Control Manager and Construction Quality Control Manager? These two positions would report directly to the project director.**

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Yes, as long as the two quality control managers are independent of (that is they are not direct employees of) the Contractor (who is assumed to be the employer of the Project Director).

**7. Will the (Construction) Quality Control Manager be required to provide a 'as built' set of plans at the conclusion of the project and provide the usual documentation of materials used on the project?**

Yes.

**8. Is the pre-submittal meeting for Dec. 2, 1:30 still scheduled?**

Yes, the meeting is scheduled for 1:30 PM on December 2, 2010 at the MDOT Headquarters Building located in Jackson in the 1st Floor Auditorium.

#### **QUESTIONS RECEIVED AS OF DECEMBER 3, 2010**

**9. Should information from proposed key subcontractors be included in the response to RFQ and/or considered as primary team members? Or what does MDOT consider as a primary team member beyond the Design Firm and Prime construction contractor?**

Yes, key subcontractors that are anticipated to have 5% or more of the contract should be included in the submittal response to the Request for Qualifications.

#### **QUESTIONS RECEIVED AS OF DECEMBER 9, 2010**

**10. If the D-B team chooses to utilize the 100% bridge plans provided by the Department from N-S, Inc., and since the plans will be complete, sealed plans, who will assume responsibility for any bridge design issues that arise during construction?**

As long as the Design-Build Team does not change the bridge design plans and constructs the bridges according to the 100% complete design plans provided by MDOT, then the original designer will be accountable for any design errors or omissions. It will be the Design-Build team's responsibility to ensure a complete understanding of the bridge plans during the procurement process so that any questions regarding the bridge design are asked prior to the bid submittal.

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If the Design-Build Team makes any modification to the bridge plans or deviates from the bridge plan intent, then the Design-Build Team will be responsible for all design issues, errors, or omissions associated with the portions of the design that were modified.

**11. Will there be a final centerline soil profile required from the Contractor?**

MDOT will provide to the shortlisted team a copy of the centerline soil profile that was prepared by SoilTech Consultants. It is currently planned that the design team will not have to complete a centerline soils profile but will be expected to confirm the data provided by MDOT and complete the necessary geotechnical investigation for the project.

**12. Based on the aggressive schedule requirements and MDOT providing 60% roadway plans and 100% structure plans; the 21-day review period seems excessive. Would MDOT consider reducing the review time to 10 days?**

MDOT has used the 21 day review period on other design-build projects and have been able to complete the plan review period in as few as 5 days in some cases. This is totally dependent on the quality and completeness of the plan submittal. MDOT is committed to assisting the design-build team with meeting the project schedule, and will work with the design-build team to shorten the review period where possible, however, it is not intended to shorten the MDOT review period at this time.

**13. Once shortlisted, will the Electronic files including (DTM) and GEOPAK data base be made available to each shortlisted team?**

MDOT intends to provide all electronic files, including digital terrain model information and GEOPAK database files to each shortlisted team at the time of issuance of the Request for Proposals.

**14. Will electronic files for bridge plans be made available to each shortlisted team?**

MDOT will provide the shortlisted teams electronic files for the bridge plans as “information only”. MDOT intends to issue the shortlisted teams with 100% complete bridge plans stamped “Released for Construction”. Any modification of the “Release for Construction” bridge plans will be the design-build team responsibility and will require a professional engineering stamp for all revised sheets or sheets affected by the revisions.

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**15. What is the frequency and location of the bore holes for bridge foundations and soil profile?**

The geotechnical reports for the bridge foundations and soil profile will be released to the shortlisted teams with the Request for Proposals.

**16. Can MDOT provide bridge plans and profiles (type size and location) before March?**

MDOT can provide electronic copies of the bridge plans and profiles as the design progresses (a schedule of submittals will be determined) during the design-build team proposal development, however, 100% complete bridge design plans will be provided as schedule for March 1, 2010.

**17. Will the traditional level of Construction Engineering and inspection be required on this project and if so, will that staff report to the QC Manager?**

The design-build team will be responsible for all quality control, including construction engineering and inspection, and for a quality program to ensure that all quality control is being performed properly. That staff should report to the design-build team QC Manager. MDOT or their representative will be on-site to perform an independent quality assurance inspection and testing.

**18. In the RFP meeting, it was stated that there must be a designated "crew" for erosion control on-site at all times. Is this crew a group that monitors the contractor and answers to the QC manager or is it a crew that can physically make corrective action and answers to the project director, his designee or the construction manager?**

It is anticipated that in order to meet the project schedule, the design-build team will be required to disturb more than 20 acres of earthwork at a time. Stormwater runoff quality and compliance is of high importance to MDOT. Maintenance of the erosion control devices and best management practices (BMP's) is of high importance and will be routinely monitored by the MDOT quality assurance inspection. The statement at the meeting referred to another project in Maryland where specific "stormwater crews" were employed in order to address stormwater quality for that project.

For this project, the design-build team will be required to develop an erosion control plan that ensures the maintenance of stormwater discharge water quality (low turbidity) and development of a plan to monitor water quality discharges during rain events. Ultimately, the QC Manager will be responsible for reporting

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on the water quality discharges and the issuance of “Non-Conformance Reports” for violations. Also, the Contractor will be required to make routine inspections to inspect and determine the effectiveness of BMPs and make adjustments when necessary.

MDOT is considering as part of the Request for Proposal package other incentives/disincentives for water quality discharge compliance and violations.

**19. Can the lead designer also have the role of the QC Manager for design?**

No.

**QUESTIONS RECEIVED AS OF DECEMBER 10, 2010**

**20. It has been identified that the NTP for construction will be issued in 06/11. What is the anticipated timeline for the approval of the required environmental permits that have been submitted by MDOT?**

MDOT anticipates finalizing the wetlands delineation before the end of December 2010 and anticipates issuance of wetlands permit by the Corps of Engineers in February 2011.

**21. In the RFQ, Under V. Past Performance Part 3.” Provide brief answers and explanations to the following questions:”. Can explanations be included within the Appendices and not count toward the 25 page limit?**

No. As a minimum, the brief answer and brief explanation must be provided in the 25 page limit. If the Proposer would like to submit additional information or explanation, it may be included in the Appendix and referenced in the brief answer provided in the first 25 pages.

**22. Was the Pre-submittal meeting “Mandatory”? If we did not attend, can we still submit the SOQ on December 17, 2010 as currently advertised?**

No, the Pre-submittal meeting was for information only. Submittal of Statement of Qualifications is open to all interested parties.