

PFAS RFP
21-667-1210-0001
Questions and Answers

| # | Question | Response |
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| 1 | The second paragraph of Section IV.A (pdf page 27; RFP page 23) states “Substantial data and information on groundwater levels and aquifer hydraulic parameters already exist at both sites.” Will these data and other previously collected data be provided to the potential offerors or have the data already been provided? We searched the RFP library but did not see any technical reports. Can you please provide more information on where these data can be found. | Additional information has been added to the “Links that may be Helpful to Offerors” in the Procurement Library for the RFP. |
| 2 | Regarding Section V. Evaluation, A. Evaluation Point Summary, C.8. New Mexico Preference - Resident Veterans Points per Section IV (page 36): Does the Prime consultant need to be the resident veteran business to receive the full 100 points allocated for the criteria, or will the 100 points be awarded to a team that includes a resident veteran business in a subconsultant role? Would a joint venture that includes a resident veteran firm qualify for the 100 points? | The Prime consultant needs to be the resident veteran business to receive the full 100 points. No. A joint venture that includes the resident veteran firm does not qualify. |
| 3 | If we did not attend the conference nor turn in an Acknowledgement of Receipt form, can we still turn in a proposal? | Yes, you can still turn in a proposal. You will not receive notices of updates, but you can check the website to see if any updates are posted. |
| 4 | Has the state determined an advisory health limit for PFAS, or will they be using EPA limits? | The New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC) has adopted EPA lifetime health advisory levels as groundwater toxic pollutants for perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctanesulfonate (PFOS), and perfluorohexanesulfonate (PFHxS) at 70 parts per trillion (ppt) individually or combined with a total of 70 ppt. These are enforceable groundwater standards. Groundwater cannot exceed the standards of NMAC 20.6.2.3103, this includes 3103A(2), the three PFAS chemicals. In addition soil and tapwater screening levels are found here: https://www.env.nm.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2016/11/Final-NMED-SSG-VOL-I-Rev.2-6-19-19.pdf |
| 5 | Does Item 28, apply to non-New Mexico residents; non-Mexico registered companies? | No. |

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| 6 | Will NMED provide all existing data and reports related to this project, or is the contractor to conduct this research? | See answer to question #1. The onus is on the offeror to find other pertinent data. |
| 7 | <p>Is it correct to assume that all commercial, domestic, dairy and livestock, domestic and livestock, irrigation and monitoring wells are physically able to be sampled given permission to do so?</p> <p>With the exception of monitoring wells, do all other wells have working pumps installed?</p> <p>If pumps are not installed, does NMED anticipate bailing of wells, or require portable pumps to be used? How many wells may fall under this category?</p> | <p>Yes, NMED anticipates that this will be the case.</p> <p>NMED is unsure at this time if all wells have pumps. This must be determined during field investigations.</p> <p>NMED will not accept bailed samples for PFAS analysis and other organic analytes, for example TOC. Portable pumps are acceptable provided that rigorous QA/QC is performed on all non-dedicated pumps and sampling equipment. Technical discussions shall be held with NMED and the consultant about bailed groundwater samples. Inorganic analytes and field parameters should be collected using flow-thru cells to maintain sample integrity. Please see the procurement library for additional information.</p> |
| 8 | <p>The RFP states that a number of monitoring wells may be installed to help reduce data gaps. It is also uncertain how many private wells may require sampling to augment characterization of the nature and extent of the PFAS contamination. In addition, the state is to approve these additional monitoring locations.</p> <p>For costing of this task in the RFP, is NMED presuming that the bidder estimate only a Phase I well drilling/installation program based on the knowledge presented in the RFP?</p> <p>Does NMED have a preferred number of wells to be installed and there locations?</p> | <p>Please see page 24, last paragraph of the RFP.</p> <p>The bidder shall propose the number of monitoring wells to be drilled and sampled based on information and data presented in the RFP. The bidder may include additional information and data obtained during a literature review to address the number of wells to be sampled as part of this RFP.</p> |
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| 9 | The RFP states: "To the extent authorized by NMED, the contractor shall utilize available modeling efforts." Numerical modeling is commonly a time-consuming and expensive task. What does NMED suggest for costing this effort? | The bidder using public domain computer codes developed by USGS and other research institutions shall conduct groundwater flow modeling. Flow modeling shall be based on site-specific parameters obtained from aquifer performance testing and the literature. PFAS fate and transport modeling will require site-specific chemical data on aquifer material (matrix and groundwater). This RFP focuses on empirical chemical and hydraulic parameter data and information and groundwater flow modeling will provide quantification of groundwater- and contaminant-flow rates. Please refer to RFP page 25. Costing out is the responsibility of the offeror. |
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| 10 | Is it correct to understand that all billing to contracted analytical laboratories will be directly paid by NMED? | Yes. |
| | Further, is it correct to assume there will be no costs submitted in the proposals for laboratory analysis expenses? | Yes. |
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| 11 | Objective 2, page 25 of the RFP state private wells east of the Cannon AFB are to be sampled. Are the four private wells within and <u>north</u> of Cannon that have had previous detections of PFAS also to be sampled under this objective? | Yes. |
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| 12 | Historically, has sampling of private wells ever resulted in dry-up of wells, requiring an additional visit to obtain actual sample volumes? | NMED is not aware of this issue with private, industrial, and municipal wells at Clovis, but this situation should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. |
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| 13 | In the case of private wells that are pumped daily for domestic use, will normal industry standard of at least three purge volumes be required before commencing sampling? | For domestic wells, sampling will be done on a case by case basis, depending on the information available. Groundwater samples shall be collected as close to wellheads as possible prior to addition of any potential chemicals (chlorine, bleach) and filters added to improve water quality. |
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| 14 | What is to be done with purge water from well sampling activities; should the bidder include costs to handle this waste? | Yes. |
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| 15 | Have any studies been done to demonstrate what water fowl species are resident and what water fowl species are migratory at the Holloman Wetlands Complex? | NMED is not aware of such site-specific investigations with results available to the public. The bidder shall provide details on conducting an investigation quantifying potential impacts to waterfowl at Holloman Wetlands Complex. |
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| 16 | Would NMED like for us to include drilling and analytical laboratory subcontractors in our proposal? I think yes, but want to confirm. | Yes. |
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| 17 | Will the new Covid restriction (effective today) impact the proposal due date? | No. |
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