



ESSEX COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE MANAGER

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Michael Mascarenas
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Linda M. Wolf
Purchasing Agent

TO: All Bidders

FROM: Linda Wolf, CPA, Purchasing Agent

DATE: April 17, 2025

SUBJECT: Addendum #1 Bid for Terry Mountain Guy Wire Replacement

This Addendum, issued to bid document holders of record, indicates changes to the bid documents for the *Terry Mountain Guy Wire Replacement* bid opening May 8, 2025.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING QUESTION & ANSWER:

Question:

The bonding requirements in the Essex County Standard Clauses are different than the bonding requirements in the Appendix B, US Government FTA Clauses. The FTA requires bid bond, performance bond, payment bond and a maintenance bond. The Essex County language requires bid/performance/payment only. Please clarify which is correct.

Answer:

Please follow the bid bond requirements per the **APPENDIX B, US GOVERNMENT (FTA) REQUIRED CLAUSES**. This section starts on page 73 of the "250037_Bid.pdf" document. The specific verbiage pertaining to Bid Bond Requirements is covered on pages 81-85 of the "250037_Bid.pdf" document and are also attached to this Addendum.

END OF ADDENDUM # 1

2. Where the purchaser is a State and is an FTA recipient or a sub-grantee of FTA recipient in accordance with 49 CFR 633.17, contractor shall provide the purchaser, authorized FTA representatives, including any PMO Contractor, access to contractor's records and construction sites pertaining to a capital project, defined at 49 USC 5302(a)1, which receives FTA assistance through the programs described at 49 USC 5307, 5309 or 5311. By definition, a capital project excludes contracts of less than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$250,000.
3. Where the purchaser enters into a negotiated contract for other than a small purchase or under the simplified acquisition threshold and is an institution of higher education, a hospital or other non-profit organization and is an FTA recipient or a sub-grantee of FTA recipient in accordance with 49 CFR 19.48, contractor shall provide the purchaser, the FTA, the US Comptroller General or their authorized representatives, access to any books, documents, papers and record of the contractor which are directly pertinent to this contract for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts and transcriptions.
4. Where a purchaser which is an recipient, subrecipient, or a sub-grantee of an FTA recipient, and in accordance with 49 USC 5325(a) enters into a contract for a capital project or improvement (defined at 49 USC 5302(a)(1)) through other than competitive bidding, contractor shall make available records related to the contract to the purchaser, the Secretary of USDOT and the US Comptroller General or any authorized officer or employee of any of them for the purposes of conducting an audit and inspection.
5. Contractor shall permit any of the foregoing parties to reproduce by any means whatsoever or to copy excerpts and transcriptions as reasonably needed.
6. Contractor shall maintain all books, records, accounts and reports required under this contract for a period of not less than three (3) years after the date of termination or expiration of this contract, except in the event of litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this contract, in which case contractor agrees to maintain same until the recipient, FTA Administrator, US Comptroller General, or any of their authorized representatives, have disposed of all such litigation, appeals, claims or exceptions related thereto, as provided by 49 CFR 18.39(i)(11).

FTA does not require the inclusion of these requirements in subcontracts.

Federal Changes – Applicability – All Contracts except micro-purchases (\$10,000 or less, except for construction contracts over \$2,000)

Contractor shall comply with all applicable FTA regulations, policies, procedures and directives, including without limitation those listed directly or by reference in the Master Agreement between the recipient and FTA, as they may be amended or promulgated from time to time during the term of the contract, to the extent that such are publicly available. Contractor's failure to comply shall constitute a material breach of the contract.

Bonding Requirements – Applicability – For those construction or facility improvement contracts or subcontracts exceeding \$250,000, FTA may accept the bonding policy and

requirements of the recipient, provided they meet the minimum requirements for construction contracts as follows:

- a. A bid guarantee from each bidder equivalent to five (5) percent of the bid price. The "bid guarantees" shall consist of a firm commitment such as a bid bond, certified check, or other negotiable instrument accompanying a bid as assurance that the bidder will, upon acceptance of his bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.
- b. A performance bond on the part to the Contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "performance bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to secure fulfillment of all the contractor's obligations under such contract.
- c. A payment bond on the part of the contractor for 100 percent of the contract price. A "payment bond" is one executed in connection with a contract to assure payment, as required by law, of all persons supplying labor and material in the execution of the work provided for in the contract. Payment bond amounts required from Contractors are as follows:
 - (1) 50% of the contract price if the contract price is not more than \$1 million;
 - (2) 40% of the contract price if the contract price is more than \$1 million but not more than \$5 million; or
 - (3) \$2.5 million if the contract price is more than \$5 million.
- d. A cash deposit, certified check or other negotiable instrument may be accepted by a grantee in lieu of performance and payment bonds, provided the grantee has established a procedure to assure that the interest of FTA is adequately protected. An irrevocable letter of credit would also satisfy the requirement for a bond.

Bid Bond Requirements (Construction)

- (a) Bid Security - A Bid Bond must be issued by a fully qualified surety company acceptable to (Recipient) and listed as a company currently authorized under 31 CFR, Part 223 as possessing a Certificate of Authority as described thereunder.
- (b) Rights Reserved - In submitting this Bid, it is understood and agreed by bidder that the right is reserved by (Recipient) to reject any and all bids, or part of any bid, and it is agreed that the Bid may not be withdrawn for a period of [ninety (90)] days subsequent to the opening of bids, without the written consent of (Recipient).

It is also understood and agreed that if the undersigned bidder should withdraw any part or all of his bid within [ninety (90)] days after the bid opening without the written consent of (Recipient), shall refuse or be unable to enter into this Contract, as provided above, or refuse or be unable to furnish adequate and acceptable Performance Bonds and Labor and Material Payments Bonds, as provided above, or refuse or be unable to furnish adequate and acceptable insurance, as provided above, he shall forfeit his bid security to the extent of (Recipient's) damages occasioned by such withdrawal, or refusal, or inability to enter into an agreement, or provide adequate security therefor.

It is further understood and agreed that to the extent the defaulting bidder's Bid Bond, Certified

Check, Cashier's Check, Treasurer's Check, and/or Official Bank Check (excluding any income generated thereby which has been retained by (Recipient) as provided in [Item x "Bid Security" of the Instructions to Bidders]) shall prove inadequate to fully recompense (Recipient) for the damages occasioned by default, then the undersigned bidder agrees to indemnify (Recipient) and pay over to (Recipient) the difference between the bid security and (Recipient's) total damages, so as to make (Recipient) whole.

The undersigned understands that any material alteration of any of the above or any of the material contained on this form, other than that requested, will render the bid unresponsive.
Performance and Payment Bonding Requirements (Construction)

The Contractor shall be required to obtain performance and payment bonds as follows:

(a) Performance bonds

1. The penal amount of performance bonds shall be 100 percent of the original contract price, unless the (Recipient) determines that a lesser amount would be adequate for the protection of the (Recipient).
2. The (Recipient) may require additional performance bond protection when a contract price is increased. The increase in protection shall generally equal 100 percent of the increase in contract price. The (Recipient) may secure additional protection by directing the Contractor to increase the penal amount of the existing bond or to obtain an additional bond.

(b) Payment bonds

1. The penal amount of the payment bonds shall equal:
 - (i) Fifty percent of the contract price if the contract price is not more than \$1 million.
 - (ii) Forty percent of the contract price if the contract price is more than \$1 million but not more than \$5 million; or
 - (iii) Two and one half million if the contract price is more than \$5 million.

- (c) If the original contract price is \$5 million or less, the (Recipient) may require additional protection as required by subparagraph 1 if the contract price is increased.

Performance and Payment Bonding Requirements (Non-Construction)

The Contractor may be required to obtain performance and payment bonds when necessary to protect the (Recipient's) interest.

(a) The following situations may warrant a performance bond:

1. (Recipient) property or funds are to be provided to the contractor for use in performing the contract or as partial compensation (as in retention of salvaged material).
2. A contractor sells assets to or merges with another concern, and the (Recipient), after recognizing the latter concern as the successor in interest, desires assurance that it is financially capable.

3. Substantial progress payments are made before delivery of end items starts.
 4. Contracts are for dismantling, demolition, or removal of improvements.
- (b) When it is determined that a performance bond is required, the Contractor shall be required to obtain performance bonds as follows:
1. The penal amount of performance bonds shall be 100 percent of the original contract price, unless the (Recipient) determines that a lesser amount would be adequate for the protection of the (Recipient).
 2. The (Recipient) may require additional performance bond protection when a contract price is increased. The increase in protection shall generally equal 100 percent of the increase in contract price.
The (Recipient) may secure additional protection by directing the Contractor to increase the penal amount of the existing bond or to obtain an additional bond.
- (c) A payment bond is required only when a performance bond is required, and if the use of payment bond is in the (Recipient's) interest.
- (d) When it is determined that a payment bond is required, the Contractor shall be required to obtain payment bonds as follows:
1. The penal amount of payment bonds shall equal:
 - (i) Fifty percent of the contract price if the contract price is not more than \$1 million;
 - (ii) Forty percent of the contract price if the contract price is more than \$1 million but not more than \$5 million; or
 - (iii) Two and one half million if the contract price is increased.

Advance Payment Bonding Requirements

The Contractor may be required to obtain an advance payment bond if the contract contains an advance payment provision and a performance bond is not furnished. The (recipient) shall determine the amount of the advance payment bond necessary to protect the (Recipient).

Patent Infringement Bonding Requirements (Patent Indemnity)

The Contractor may be required to obtain a patent indemnity bond if a performance bond is not furnished and the financial responsibility of the Contractor is unknown or doubtful. The (recipient) shall determine the amount of the patent indemnity to protect the (Recipient).

Warranty of the Work and Maintenance Bonds

1. The Contractor warrants to (Recipient), the Architect and/or Engineer that all materials and equipment furnished under this Contract will be of highest quality and new unless otherwise specified by (Recipient), free from faults and defects and in conformance with the Contract Documents. All work not so conforming to these standards shall be considered defective. If required by the [Project Manager], the Contractor shall furnish satisfactory evidence as to the kind and quality of materials and equipment.

2. The Work furnished must be of first quality and the workmanship must be the best obtainable in the various trades. The Work must be of safe, substantial and durable construction in all respects. The Contractor hereby guarantees the Work against defective materials or faulty workmanship for a minimum period of one (1) year after Final Payment by (Recipient) and shall replace or repair any defective materials or equipment or faulty workmanship during the period of the guarantee at no cost to (Recipient). As additional security for these guarantees, the Contractor shall, prior to the release of Final Payment [as provided below], furnish separate Maintenance (or Guarantee) Bonds in form acceptable to (Recipient) written by the same corporate surety that provides the Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond for this Contract. These bonds shall secure the Contractor's obligation to replace or repair defective materials and faulty workmanship for a minimum period of one (1) year after Final Payment and shall be written in an amount equal to ONE HUNDRED PERCENT (100%) of the CONTRACT SUM, as adjusted (if at all).

Clean Air – Applicability – All contracts over \$150,000.

- 1) Contractor shall comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations pursuant to the Clean Air Act, 42 USC 7401 et seq. Contractor shall report each violation to the recipient and understands and agrees that the recipient will, in turn, report each violation as required to FTA and the appropriate EPA Regional Office.
- 2) Contractor shall include these requirements in each subcontract exceeding \$150,000 financed in whole or in part with FTA assistance.

Recycled Products – Applicability – All contracts for items designated by the EPA, when the purchaser or contractor procures \$10,000 or more of one of these items during the current or previous fiscal year using Federal funds.

The contractor agrees to comply with all the requirements of Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended (42 U.S.C. 6962), including but not limited to the regulatory provisions of 40 CFR Part 247, and Executive Order 12873, as they apply to the procurement of the items designated in Subpart B of 40 CFR Part 247.

Davis-Bacon and Copeland Anti-Kickback Acts – Applicability -Construction contracts and subcontracts, including actual construction, alteration and/or repair, including decorating and painting, over \$2,000

(1) Minimum wages –

(i) All laborers and mechanics employed or working upon the site of the work (or under the United States Housing Act of 1937 or under the Housing Act of 1949 in the construction or development of the project), will be paid unconditionally and not less often than once a week, and without subsequent deduction or rebate on any account (except such payroll deductions as are permitted by regulations issued by the Secretary of Labor under the Copeland Act (29 CFR part 3)), the full amount of wages and bona fide fringe benefits (or cash equivalents thereof) due at time of payment computed at rates not less than those contained in the wage determination of the Secretary of Labor which is attached hereto and made a part hereof, regardless of any contractual relationship which may be alleged to exist between the